

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC) AND THE QUESTION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION: A CASE STUDY OF SOUTH AFRICA

By

TSHENOLO MOSIELENG

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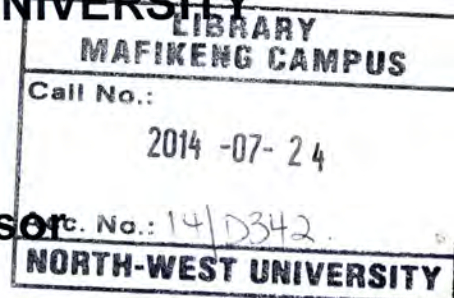
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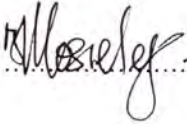
Prof. V. Ojakorotu



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DECLARATION

I, Tshenolo Mosieleng declare that this dissertation titled: SADC and the question of illegal immigration has never been submitted by me for a degree at North West University or any other institution of higher learning. It is a work of my own design and implementation. All materials herein have been fully acknowledged.

Signature.......... Signature.....

T. Mosieleng

Prof V. Ojakorotu.....

Date: Day.....of.....2013 Date: Day.....of.....2013

DEDICATION

This paper is dedicated to SADC leaders and policy makers who are striving to minimize illegal immigration in the region.



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ABSTRACT

This thesis looked into the SADC region and the question of illegal immigration. It selected the case study of South Africa. Currently there are more than five hundred thousand immigrants residing illegally in South Africa. Findings of this nature prompted a supposition that the country has a challenge to minimize this constant inflow of undocumented migrants across its borders.

The study utilized the qualitative research methodology. Data was collected from primary and secondary sources. Structured interviews were used to gather information from relevant participants who work predominantly with immigration matters. Officials from home affairs were interviewed in order to get relevant data about illegal immigration in South Africa. The main focus of the study is on illegal immigrants not on legal migrants entering the country with valid documents.

Theories that are utilized to analyse these study are realism and liberalism. Realism theory was selected since it deals mainly with security. It's the responsibility of South African state to protect its borders from unauthorised entry into its borders. Liberalism is pertinent since it focuses on cooperation of states to solve common problems. The SADC region is working together to minimise the high influx illegal immigrants in the borders of member states. However the theory that is most appropriate to guide the study is realism since illegal entry of illegal immigrants into South Africa threatens its security.

The findings of the study determined that illegal immigration is aggravated by poor border control in South Africa. Some of the borders of South Africa do not have enough immigration personnel and they struggle with inadequate infrastructural facilities. Many officials in border posts take bribes and permit illegal immigrants to enter the country without legal documentation. The other challenges are the illegal employment of immigrants mainly in farm areas, the crime of human trafficking into South Africa and those who overstay their stay after the expiry of the visas.

The study also learned the causes of illegal immigration into the country. Outcomes show that illegal immigrants enter the country because they cannot afford to pay for visas, they desire a better life than they have in their countries their countries of origin which at times are plagued with war, political violence and scarce opportunities

for economic development. Data from research confirm that South Africa has a persistent problem of illegal immigration.

This study makes the following recommendations:

- A needs based research should be conducted in all the borders of South Africa to be able to assess the needs in these ports of entry to be able to supply the relevant aid to maximise their operations and services.
- A special force should be created to focus in the crime prevention of illegal employment and human rights abuse of illegal immigrants in farm areas.
- The government should develop organizations which will specialise in educating the public about the methods of human traffickers. Emphasis should be centred in rural areas since that is where the crime happen the most.
- There should be a formal training in institutions of higher learning to prepare Home Affairs personnel to competently fill the posts in the borders of country.
- A specialised force with specialised training in immigration issues should be developed to maintain security in the borders.
- Political instability and human rights violation in the SADC region should be alleviated in many member states because they accelerate the massive migration of illegal immigrants into neighbouring states.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AISA -African Institute of South Africa

ART- Anti-Retroviral therapy for HIV and AIDS

COSATU- Congress of South African Trade Unions

DHA- Department of Home Affairs

DRC- Democratic Republic of Congo

GMC- General Medical Council

HIV/AIDS- Human immunodeficiency virus / Acquired immune deficiency syndrome

ID- Identity document

IOL – Independent Online

IOM- International Organization of Migration

MSF- Medecins Sans Frontieres

NALEDI -National Labour and Economic Development Institute

NGO- Non Governmental Organization

OECD- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

RDP-Reconstruction and Development Programme

SABC- South African Broadcasting Corporation

SADC – Southern African development community

UK- United Kingdom

UNICEF- United Nations International Children's Emergency fund

UNITA- National Union for the total Independence of Angola

USA- United States of America

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER ONE	1
1.1 Background of the study.....	1
1.2 Statement of the problem.....	5
1.3 Rationale of the study.....	6
1.4 Aims of the study.....	8
1.5 Objectives of the study.....	8
1.6 Hypothesis.....	9
1.7 Significance of the study.....	9
1.8 Scope of the study.....	10
1.9 Research Methodology.....	10
1.10 Ethical Consideration.....	12
1.11 Limitations of the study.....	12
References.....	13

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction	20
2.2 Literature review and theoretical framework.....	20
2.3 Theoretical framework.....	35
2.3.1 Realism theory.....	35
2.3.2 Liberalism theory.....	37
References.....	39

CHAPTER THREE

Data Presentation, Analysis and Findings.....	46
3.1 Challenges of South Africa to minimize illegal immigration.....	52
3.2 Causes of illegal immigration into South Africa.....	60

3.3 The socio economic Impact of illegal migration in South Africa in terms of crime and public services.....	65
References.....	77

CHAPTER FOUR

Conclusion and Recommendations.....	86
Conclusion.....	86
4.2Recommendations.....	89
References.....	92

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The challenge of illegal migration is a problem which is faced by almost all countries in the world. The world is composed of nations which have problems such as political oppression, civil war, high unemployment, human rights abuses and poor economic conditions which are some of the causes of this problem. In most instances these factors act as push factors. Migration is motivated by the idea that where a migrant is going is better than where he is moving from. In pursuit of peace, a better life and security, migrants move from their countries of origin and seek opportunities in stable countries which have prosperity, political stability, respect for human rights etc.

On the African continent the problem of illegal migration exists in many countries. Within the SADC region many countries are battling daily with the reality of illegal immigrants. The presence of these immigrants affects the host nations economically and socially, and their security is also challenged. In this introductory section of the paper South Africa will be briefly discussed as one of the countries in SADC which are affected illegal immigration.

“Southern Africa has been the most targeted region in sub-Saharan Africa due to its relatively high level of economic and social development. The most attractive countries in the region are South Africa, Botswana and Namibia. While economic factors are not the sole motivator of illegal immigration, they are the dominant ones. The increasing outflow of illegal Zimbabwean labour Migrants to Botswana and South Africa, is partly in response to the downturn of the Zimbabwean economy in the 1990s” (Campbell, 2008:3).

The situation in developed countries

Affluent countries in the world are also facing the challenge of illegal immigration. Countries like United States of America, Canada and United Kingdom have a huge inflow of illegal immigrants in their countries. The majority of them are looking for a better life in the global north. They are motivated to leave their countries due to push factors like conflict, unemployment, human rights violations etc.

In the United States particularly millions of illegal migrants form a portion of the population of the country. Estimates mention the number of about 11 million illegal immigrants live in the country. Within the American society there are opposing views about illegal immigrants. Some argue that they are criminals who break immigration laws and increase the burden on taxpayers. Another view is that they help the country by taking jobs which Americans are not willing to take and are they increase the pool of low cost labour (procon.org:2014).

The attitudes reflected in the American society regarding illegal immigrants are caused by a number of reasons. In most instances those who advocate the notion that they expand the pool of low cost labour they are gaining financially from the labours of the migrants through cheap labour. Therefore they are defending their interests. The second group with a view that illegal immigrants are criminals are motivated by patriotic convictions about their nation and as a result they want to defend it.

The similar attitude is reflected in the Canadian society they desire the deportation of illegal immigrants back to their countries. These patriotic attitudes are motivated by the feeling that laws have been broken and therefore violators deserve the penalty. Statistics reveal that the number of illegal migrants in Canada could be around the range of 35,000 to 120,000. However the majority of Canadians feel that illegal immigrants should be sent back to their countries even though they have family relations in the country (National post, 2014).

Among other things which aggravate this negative conduct towards illegal migrants are the millions of dollars that the state has to spend to maintain illegal migrants in the country. The American Legion (2003:3) mentions that the American government spends a lot of money to maintain illegal immigrants. In California alone the state spends about \$10.5 billion per year according to a report by federation for American immigration reform. This high amount goes to expenditures in education, criminal justice and medical care.

The United Kingdom is another country striving with the problem of illegal immigration. The London school of economics mentions that there are at least 863,000 people living illegally in United Kingdom of whom 604,000 live in London. Among the illegal migrants in the UK some of them are visa over stayers and others were born to parents who are illegal immigrants (Daily mail, March: 2009).

This huge number of illegal immigrants in wealthy countries is motivated by the desire for a better life. Most illegal migrants come from countries which lack economic opportunities, political stability, peace and respect for human rights. As a result these factors push them to more wealthy and stable countries like the United Kingdom. They struggle with human right violations because they cannot go to the relevant authorities to report the unfair treatments from xenophobic citizens.

Illegal immigration places a lot of strain on the budget of the host countries. In the United Kingdom each illegal immigrants costs the taxpayer about £4,250 in costs for public services in medical care and education. In a year the total cost is £3.7 billion. (Barrett, 2013:8). Expenditures of this nature hamper development because this money could be utilised for developmental purposes. Furthermore they can incite xenophobic attacks on illegal migrants.

South Africa

Just like any country in the world. South Africa has migrants coming into and leaving the country. After the 1994 elections in South Africa, many Africans saw South Africa as a place that promises a better life. It was the beginning of migrants coming in great numbers to pursue jobs and opportunities. Castles, quoting Crush, argues that "after 1994, unauthorized entry grew enormously. Africans from as far away as

Ghana, Nigeria and DRC Congo flocked to South Africa. Many brought with them qualifications and experience in medicine, education, administration and business. Others joined the informal economy as hawkers, street food-sellers or petty traders.” To other scholars this view is an assumption not a fact Campbell(2013) argues that “South Africans often assume that since the end of apartheid, and the coming of democracy in 1994, there has been a huge wave of migration into South Africa from the rest of the continent.”

This view denies the statistical data which indicates the immense flow of migrants into the country after 1994. It is a statement which lacks pertinent data to substantiate its conclusions on this matter.

Other erudite literature argues that South Africa as a regional hegemon has many challenges to deal with, together with other regional members. Among other challenges is the reality of illegal immigration. “As a member of SADC, South Africa's focus is on regional co-operation for the socioeconomic development of the Southern African region. South Africa's membership of SADC provides an opportunity to tackle, in a coordinated fashion, together with other member states, issues such as sustainable regional economic growth, HIV/AIDS, the problem of illegal immigration and refugees, as well as narcotics and arms smuggling into the region” (Department of Foreign Affairs, 2003).

There is a combination of legal and illegal immigrants coming into the country. Most immigrants have come to South Africa to escape poverty and destitution in their own countries, as well as civil war and political instability. Some enter the country very easily through the poorly controlled borders (Minnaar, 1996).

Other plausible reasons why immigrants enter South Africa is because they have fled war in Angola, Burundi, and Somalia and Zimbabwe. Other related causes mentioned include: visiting friends, trade and a desire to purchase goods and to look for work (Macdonald, Zinyana, Gay, Vletter, and Matters 2000).

The question that has always created intrigue for scholars of migration studies is the question of the precise number of illegal immigrants in a country. The difficulty of the issue is how aliens enter the country. “Estimates of the number of illegal immigrants

in South Africa vary widely. This is because the majority of illegal migrants enter the country covertly. It is therefore not possible to give a rational estimate of the number of aliens in the country”(Hough, 1995:20).

Mwakekagile (2008:217) articulates a very credible estimate that the number of illegal immigrants ranges from 2 million to 8 million. The largest number comes from Mozambique and Zimbabwe but increasing numbers come from other countries like Somalia. “The Human Sciences Research Council withdrew its earlier estimate that there are four to eight million undocumented migrants in South Africa. Those numbers nonetheless still make their way into the press and the public consciousness. Statistics South Africa estimates undocumented persons in South Africa to be in the range of five hundred thousand to one million”(African centre for migration and society, 2013).

The objective of this study is to examine the struggles faced by South Africa to reduce illegal immigration into the country. Looking at the data that has been publicized by various sources, it is clear that Southern Africa faces a challenge of illegal immigration in many of the countries. The countries that are mostly affected by these realities are those with political stability like South Africa, Namibia and Botswana. Another point evident is that illegal immigration affects the economic power of these countries, considering the millions that have to be spent on repatriation, legal proceedings and food. This certainly is a threat that needs obliteration by concrete resolutions to carry out actions. Another significant observation is that illegal immigration affects the security of receiving countries as many of the migrants bring weapons illegally which can affect the safety of the civilians of those countries by increasing violent crimes and instability in the receiving country.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Illegal immigration is a problem that exists in the SADC region. It is accelerated by the political difficulties in the region such as human rights violations, political violence, poor economic conditions, lack of peace and stability. Countries in the region have taken measures to attempt to mitigate illegal movement of persons in the region like making policies and laws to prevent this problem. Penalties in

countries are place to prosecute violators of immigration policies but these measures have not prevented the persistence of the problem.

Illegal immigration is a regional challenge in SADC. Member states are struggling with this issue. Matlosa (2006:15) argues that “all the SADC countries face various types of challenges in respect to cross-border migration flows”. This problem is not just confined to South Africa, other SADC states are stressed with the issue across their borders to solve this problem, and co-operatively they are striving to mitigate it.

The International Relations Department highlights the fact that South Africa is working in concert with SADC to deal with illegal immigration on a regional level “South Africa's focus is on regional co-operation for the socioeconomic development of the Southern African region. South Africa's membership of SADC provides an opportunity to tackle, in a coordinated fashion together with other member states issues such as sustainable regional economic growth, the problem of illegal immigration and refugees”(Department of International Relations and Cooperation, 2003).

This study selects South Africa as one of the member states of SADC trying to minimise illegal immigration. **It will evaluate the following questions.**

- a) What are the causes of illegal immigration into South Africa?
- b) What are the challenges South Africa faces to curb illegal immigration?
- c) What is the socio-economic impact of illegal migration into South Africa in terms of crime and public services?

1.3 Rationale of the study

This study is important because it seeks to assess a common challenge in the SADC region which is illegal immigration. Many countries in the region struggle with this problem. Bilal(2013) the vice president of Tanzania mentions that the major problems in the region include: drug trafficking, illegal immigration and organised crime as among the chief challenges facing member countries of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

SADC however has come up with the 1995 draft protocol of SADC to regulate movement of persons in the region. The 1995 draft protocol of SADC Article 2, more specifically mentions the following rights to be accorded to citizens of member states: the right to enter the territory of another member state freely and without a visa for a short visit; the right to reside in the territory of another member state; and the right to establish oneself and work in the territory of another member state.

The policies stated above give citizens of member states rights to enter any of the SADC states and be able to find decent work or be self-employed in any of them. However this free movement of persons in the region is regulated by immigration laws of the host countries. Entrants should be in possession of a valid passport to enter the borders. Entering illegally through unauthorized ports is a crime against the laws of that country.

The 1995 draft protocol mentions that the SADC region intends to cooperate in preventing the problem of illegal immigration in the region. It is not just a mandate for South Africa; the entire region seeks to mitigate this problem. Chapter two, article 2 of the 1995 Protocol lists that SADC seeks to facilitate the movement of citizens of member states within the region by gradually eliminating obstacles which impede such movement, to expand the network of bilateral agreements among member states in this regard, as a step towards a multilateral regional agreement, to co-operate in preventing the illegal movement of citizens of member states and the illegal movement of nationals of third states within and into the region.

This study is significant because it seeks to assess the challenges and difficulties faced by South Africa to decrease illegal immigration into the country, since this is a regional mandate in all member states. Article 11 subsections 1 and 2(e) of the SADC 2005 draft protocol on facilitation of movement of persons says that "every state party undertakes to co-operate with and assist the other state parties to facilitate the movement of persons in the community as a vehicle for achieving

economic integration,” 2(e) and adds “preventing illegal movement of persons into and within the region”.

It is evident from the above sources that SADC intends to cooperate in the process of eliminating illegal immigration from the region and it is a major challenge that member states are grappling with. South Africa as a member state is also co-operating to fight this problem.

The policies designed to prevent illegal immigration are not just limited to the regional policies of SADC. South Africa has policies as well which stipulate that it intends to reduce illegal immigration into its borders. According to the preamble of the immigration act of 2002 it says that “In providing for the regulation of *admission* of foreigners to, their residence in, and their *departure* from the *Republic* and for matters connected therewith, the Immigration Act aims at setting in place a new system of immigration control which ensures that *border* monitoring is strengthened to ensure that the *borders* of the *Republic* do not remain porous and illegal immigration through them may be effectively detected, reduced and deterred”.

Assessing this act its clear South Africa intends to reduce illegal immigration into its borders. This study therefore intends to investigate the limitations of the country to reduce illegal immigration into its borders. Therefore this makes this study significant since it intends to explore the problems that South Africa is facing to reduce illegal migration into tis borders.

1.4 Aim of the study

To explore the challenges faced by South Africa to minimise illegal immigration.

1.5 Objectives of the study

The study aims to investigate these specific problems

- ✓ To assess the causes of illegal immigration into South Africa.
- ✓ To examine challenges of South Africa to decrease illegal immigration.
- ✓ To assess the impact of illegal immigration on the socio-economic system of the country.

1.6 Significance of the study

SADC as a region encounters the problem of irregular movement of persons. It intends to resolve this challenge by working together. South Africa as a member of SADC is in the same boat of fighting against unlawful migration of persons. This study will assess the challenges South Africa faces in the process of curbing illegal migration.

The data from this study will be important to policy makers of South Africa and SADC region to evaluate ideas and invent effective policies based on relevant data. Other groups such as politicians, government officials and academics in the field of political science and international relations will be educated by the findings of this study. Upcoming researchers will benefit from the content of this research. Research institutes such as AISA (African Institute of South Africa) which focuses on the problems of Africa will be able to evaluate the challenges of South Africa in relation to illegal immigration. Home Affairs Department will also benefit since it specializes in matters of immigration.

1.7 Hypothesis

The study is premised on the following hypothesis

Due to poorly maintained and porous borders of South Africa, the country is likely to be struggling to minimise illegal immigration into the country. Current statistics show that, there are many illegal immigrants in South Africa. Statistics South Africa, estimates the number of undocumented persons in South Africa to be in the range of five hundred thousand to one million (African centre for migration and society, 2013). This data implies that the country is encountering obstacles to effectively reduce illegal immigration.

1.8 Scope of the study

The study will be limited to SADC region. It will select South Africa which is one of the member states of this regional organization; it aims to assess the current difficulties of this country in decreasing illegal immigration across its borders.

1.9 Research Methodology

This study will use qualitative method. It is a method which involves the natural setting as a direct source of data. Qualitative data are collected in the form of pictures and words rather than numbers Bastic, and Metalon, (2004). Denzin and Linchon(1994) mention that qualitative research is multimethod in focus involving an interpretative naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that the qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of or interpret phenomena in terms of the meaning people bring to them. Qualitative research involves the studied use and collection of a variety of empirical materials; case study, personal experience, introspection, life story, interviews, observational and historical, interaction and visual texts that describe routine and problematic moments and meanings in people's lives.

Research Approach

The research that will be used for this study will be a qualitative approach. Usage of this methodology can be effective to collect valuable information from participants with relevant experiences and information. It is a method of capturing the meaning of people's lives, under real world conditions. It is unique because of its ability to represent the views and perspectives of the participants in the study. "Qualitative research can represent the meanings given to real life events by the people who live in them, not the values, preconceptions of meaning held by researchers. It is a method that strives to collect, integrate and present data from a variety of sources of evidence as a part of any given study. The variety will likely follow from your having to study a real world setting and its participants" (Yin, 2011:9).

Research design

The research methodology applied to this study is the case study method. It is a type of study which gives indications and allows further elaborations and specialization as well as of a hypothesis on a subject. Case study method enables a researcher to closely examine the data within a specific context. In most cases, a case study method selects a small geographical area or a very limited number of individuals as the subjects of study (Zainal, 2007:2).

Data collection methods

The first method which will be used to collect data is by perusing secondary data .Sources will be consulted in the form of published textbooks, journals, articles written by experts and concerned authors in the field of migrations studies from credible libraries. Scholastic sources from research institutes such as (AISA) Africa Institute of South Africa, International Organization of Migration, and Institute of Security Studies will be consulted.

The second method will be the face- to- face and telephonic interviews. Interviewing is a way to collect data as well as to gain knowledge from individuals. Government officials will be interviewed to comment and add value to the investigation at hand Kvale, (1996, 14). Interviews are ways for participants to get involved and talk about their views. In addition, the interviewees are able to discuss their perception and interpretation with regard to a given situation. It is their expression from their point of view (Cohen, Manion and Morrison, 2000, 267).

There are many reasons to use an interview for collecting data and using it as a research instrument. Gray, (2004: 214) has given the following reasons. There is a need to obtain highly personalized data. There are opportunities for probing. A good return rate is important. It can be used where respondents are not fluent in the language of the country, or where they have difficulties with written language.

Relevant person who will be interviewed is:

Officials of the Department of Home Affairs -The reason is that this department works with immigration issues on a daily basis, so they most likely possess immense knowledge and experience about issues of migration.

Data Analysis method

The data from this study will be mostly qualitative. The process of evaluating data is analytical and logical. Westbrook (1994) quoting Bogdan & Biken (1982: 145) says that Data analysis involves "working with data, organizing it, breaking it into manageable units, synthesizing it, searching for patterns, discovering what is important and what is to be learned, and deciding what you will tell others"

Prasad, (2000:2) quoting Nachmias and Nachmias, (1976) articulates that content denotes what is contained and content analysis is the analysis of what is contained in a message. Content analysis may be seen as a method where the content of the message forms the basis for drawing inferences and conclusions about the content.

1.10. Ethical Consideration

One of the most significant points when conducting research is to protect the reputations and identities of the participants who provide information. Before the commencements of interviews the participants will be told of the importance of the information and how it will be used. The anonymity of the providers of information will be protected at all stages of the study. They will be given a chance to participate voluntarily. Another consideration is that all the secondary sources from published sources are acknowledged to avoid plagiarism. The researcher will not falsify or misinterpret the data that writer intended to communicate.

1.11. Limitations of the study

In the conduct of this study, the major limitation that delayed the research process was that informants with relevant information often postponed appointments and most of the time

they were not available to give assistance of the researcher. Others felt insecure to disclose information fearing to be exposed even though they were assured that their anonymity will be protected. The researcher could not access information directly from illegal immigrants to comprehend their experiences since they fear arrest and deportation.

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CHAPTER TWO

Literature review and theoretical framework

2.1 Introduction

This chapter looks at the literature review and theoretical framework. It is divided into two sections. The first one deals with the conclusions and views of scholars applicable to the study and secondly it explains theories pertinent to evaluating the study. The objective of literature review is to present a critical and in-depth assessment of past research work related to the topic. It also ensures that the researcher does not duplicate the original work of other researchers. Knowledge gaps are also identified in the past works which need to be filled.

Literature that was reviewed reflects on illegal immigration in the SADC region. Most scholars view illegal migration as an impediment to regional integration, a threat to security, a source of tension between countries of the SADC region. These authors recommend a regional solution to effectively reduce the problem of illegal migration. However this data fails to specifically identify the current difficulties or challenges of South Africa as a member state of the SADC region to decrease illegal immigration across its borders. This study is contributory given that the researcher intends to fill this knowledge gap left by other migration scholars. Erudite literature shows that much has been written on illegal migration particularly in relation to the SADC region. The earlier researches however do not specialise in assessing current hindrances which the government of South Africa is encountering to reduce illegal immigration.

The SADC region

(International Relations and Cooperation 2003) outlines that SADC originally known as the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), was formed in Lusaka, Zambia on 1 April 1980, following the adoption of the Lusaka Declaration. The Declaration and Treaty establishing the Southern African

Development Community (SADC) which has replaced the Co-ordination Conference was signed at the Summit of Heads of State or Government on 17 August 1992, in Windhoek, Namibia. Member states of SADC are Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe

"SADC covers an area of about 9,859,000 km sq. It has a population of 230 million people, the majority of whom are rural. SADC's combined GDP is US\$ 230 billion. Based in the capital of Botswana Gaborone SADC's main vision is that of a common future within a regional community that will ensure economic well-being, improvement of the standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice and peace and security for the peoples of Southern Africa. The main principles of SADC are enumerated in the Treaty of Windhoek that sanctioned the birth of the organization. Amongst these are respect for equality, solidarity, democracy, equity and peaceful settlement of disputes"(Reports on International organizations, 2010).

Additionally the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland (2013) mentions that the Declaration and Treaty signed by Heads of State and Government in August, 1992 in Windhoek, Namibia states that in Article 5 lays out in detail the objectives of SADC to: Achieve development and economic growth, alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life of the people of Southern Africa and support the socially disadvantaged through regional integration, evolve common political values, promote and defend peace and security, promote self-sustaining development on the basis of collective self-reliance and interdependence of member States, achieve complementarities between national and regional strategies and programmes, promote and maximise productive employment and utilisation of resources in the region, achieve sustainable utilisation of natural resources and effective protection of the environment, strengthen and consolidate the long-standing historical, social and cultural affinities and links among the people of the region.

Illegal immigration in SADC

(Sebek, 2001) highlights that in the African continent, African states struggle with internal insecurities; regime insecurity, illegal migration, soil depletion, to name just a few, figure prominently on their agendas.

Illegal immigration is listed as one of the causes of internal insecurity in Africa. This practice is a crime since it is an action which goes against the immigration policies of the host nation. It is because undocumented migrants enter the hosting countries illegally and are not properly screened to guarantee that they are not bringing any threats to the host nations. There is a high possibility that some of them could be criminals which can threaten the security of the citizens of that country.

Crush (2005:2) elaborates that cross-border migration for employment within SADC was prevalent long before the drawing of colonial boundaries and dates back at least 150 years. The countries of Southern Africa have been sending and receiving migrants since the mid nineteenth century when labour migrants came to work on the Kimberley diamond mines, including from modern-day Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The discovery of gold on the Witwatersrand changed the entire pattern of labour migration in the sub-continent. Initially most migrants came independently. Male labour migration to the mines to (South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe) and commercial farms and plantations to (South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Swaziland) is the most enduring form of legal cross-border labour migration within the region. Migration to the mines was the most highly regulated, through systems of recruitment under a single agency, the Employment Bureau of Africa.

The SADC region as a whole is combating illegal immigration and has challenges in terms of its regional migration policy. It is a challenge which is affecting all member states. Development goals in individual countries of the region are greatly affected due to this problem; security concerns and political instability are also incurred as a result of illegal immigration. Sadallah (2012) quoting Bilal (vice president of

Tanzania) mentions that illegal immigration and drug trafficking are the chief challenges facing the SADC region.

Kumalo (2013) quotes Suzanne Matale chairperson of the fellowship of Christian Councils in Southern Africa who argues that SADC does not have a regional migration policy. Standards and migration requirements vary from country to country. Though SADC came up with the draft protocol of free movement of persons in 1995 and revised it in 1997 the free movement of people still remains slow.

Other scholars embrace that since migration is a central component of people's livelihood across the SADC region, policies to manage and capitalise on these movements have not been formulated. This creates a chasm between governments on their commitment to promote regional integration, protect human rights and reduce poverty, on one hand and migration policies, administrative practices and policing strategies on the other (Landau, 2011).

Moreover Matambanadzo (2013) further argues that Zimbabwe, together with other Southern African Development Community countries, is working on a framework that seeks to comprehensively address labour migration and migration management in the region. The region faces challenges of managing labour migration.

This notion has some credibility because currently there is not a unanimous policy of migration in region. The current draft protocol of the free movement of persons of 2005, though in existence still needs to be ratified by nine member states before it can be implemented. Some of the postponements include the fact that the task force of South Africa, Lesotho, Angola and Zambia has to draw some procedures that can be employed before implementing the protocol.

South Africa, Botswana and Namibia are the favoured countries of destination a fact that has aroused xenophobia among their citizens and that has been an obstacle to the adoption of the Draft Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons in the SADC region (Oucho, 2011:1).

Makochekanwa(2009) in his study distinctively argues that national laws in SADC states impede free movement of persons. Each country has its own standards. These laws impede free movement of persons from one to another member state. Laws such as stringent visa requirements, strict laws to register a foreign business, not recognising educational qualifications from member countries, strict entry requirements in sectors like medicine, legal fields, cost of applying for permits are some of the impediments. He recommends that SADC should implement protocols and policies agreed upon to enhance free movement of persons, recognise educational qualifications from member states, make labour more flexible and simplify administrative procedures).

This view focuses on the concept of relaxing the restrictive laws among member states in the SADC region in terms of procedures to access opportunities. Among other challenges facing the region are economic disparities. Countries which have the most advanced economies take protectionist approaches because firstly they want to defend opportunities for their own citizens and secondly they fear an immense flow of migrants across their borders. Therefore it is prudent to advance economies, and stabilize conflicts and political violence in the region before enacting lenient policies in SADC countries.

Other scholars who wrote on migration policy like Adepoju, Naerssen, Zoomers, and (2008:135) argue that regional migration policies, legislation and practice that are disjointed along national lines do not appear to meet the objectives of policies of SADC and NEPAD to foster African cooperation, unity, development and need to be removed. On a regional level, the SADC is intent on fostering regional integration for development and alleviation of poverty.

This view it is not balanced. Firstly the region currently faces many conflicts, political oppression, human rights violations etc. Many migrants from African states are motivated to escape these circumstances by moving to neighboring countries to rebuild their lives. As a result the member states have to enact regulations to protect their borders while regional solutions are still being sought to bring stability. After the

realization of dependable stability in the region then national migration policies can possibly be removed.

Furthermore Cross, Gelderblom, Roux, and Mafukindze (2006:287) articulate that any rapid decision within SADC countries to allow free movement for the whole of the African super-region could be problematic in terms of the reaction of their own nationals, and perhaps in relation to governments' national security concerns. Likewise, the success of ECOWAS and the EAC with free movement would not necessarily predict the same success for the southern region in the short term.

Oliver (2009:4) argues further that the precarious position of migrant workers and their families demands an appropriate response in the form of special protection embedded in or foreseen by a proper policy framework. Such a migration policy framework in SADC needs to be informed by applicable AU policy and SADC standard instruments, by human rights imperatives, and by the need to integrate immigration and social security policies, and should be developed and implemented at both the country and regional levels.

Southern Africa Trust (2008) mentions that the poor of the region migrate to address their poverty; the free movement of people in the SADC region remains an aspiration, rather than a reality; those migrants continue to face particular hardship and vulnerability, including xenophobia. It resolved that: Implementation of the protocol on the facilitation of free movement of people within the SADC be fast-tracked; Active measures be taken to address rising levels of xenophobia in the region; Governments should deal with push factors causing the brain drain, especially of health workers; Data capture systems be converged to facilitate the portability of social benefits.

Xenophobic attacks from nationals are a reality in SADC. The above notion held by Southern Africa Trust holds sound proposals for the region as a whole to formulate policies which can mitigate the inhuman treatments of foreigners and their rights should be protected. However regional problems, in particular political corruption,

human rights violations and conflicts need tangible solutions to create stability in the region. This can reduce the trend of large migration in the region.

The historical evidence, supported by data on modern-day migration movements within SADC, suggests that systems of labour migration in southern Africa, and in particular to South Africa, are deeply entrenched. And yet, South African immigration law and policy, as regulations superimposed on the existing social security framework, is characterized by its emphasis on control and deportation, and on restricting access, controlling movement and regulating presence in the host country. Immigration law and policy does not honour a human rights approach, and fails to encourage and support migration. To a large extent, the failure to encourage and support migration and to concentrate on control is also apparent from the scope and orientation of the labour agreements between South Africa and several SADC countries. Immigration laws and policy in South Africa, as is the case in other SADC countries, generally focus on the effects of migration, rather than on the underlying causes thereof (Olivier, 2011).

South Africa as a regional leader lacks solutions to tackle illegal immigration. This view that South Africa embraces the notion of deportation and focuses on strengthening its borders is valid. However there is a reason for this reaction. Political problems like wars, poverty, political oppression etc. in the region compel South Africa to take a temporary approach of deportation while it is still waiting for regional solutions to these problems to be developed. Lastly the reality is that regional problems will need to be resolved rapidly before South Africa can embrace more lenient policies.

Other scholars adding this discussion argue that Southern African governments have not done enough to deal with the real problem. They have resorted to dealing with the symptoms of the disease rather than with the disease itself. They spend millions of tax payer's money in reconstructing and electrifying their border fences and employing more immigration personnel in trying to keep out their neighbours. The fundamental question that then follows naturally is if these secure and strong fences

make good neighbourliness as envisioned by the African regional integration agenda(Ngandwe, 2013:426).

Countries facing the problem of Illegal immigration are constantly working to combat this challenge. Reliable solutions to solve this problem are still being proposed and researched. As a result it is important for member states to find temporary solutions such as strengthening their borders and deporting illegal immigrants while they are still finding practical solutions to this problem. Even though these approaches are not completely effective to deal with this situation they are making a slight difference.

Additionally Nkhoma(2008:29) argues that illegal immigration threatens the security of any country. Evidence from the case study, in northern Malawi suggests that, although the numbers and crimes associated with illegal immigration are relatively low compared to those committed by Malawians, the illegality of their presence undermines the sovereignty of the country to control immigration.

Illegal immigration is a crime which clearly violates the immigration laws of a country. This view held by Nkhoma is credible because countries have a right to determine who should be allowed to enter the country in order to protect their people. Illegal immigration therefore takes away this prerogative. External threats are likely to weaken the state if it does not regulate entry to its borders.

The reduction of illegal migration will not occur by the wave of a magic wand. The governments of the region need to look at the problem as one that affects them all. The fact that a country has to expend resources on the repatriation process is already a burden to its agenda. The countries of the region need to work together to address this problem collectively within the context of regional integration (Dava, 2002:20).

In order to resolve the issue of illegal immigration its causes have to be dealt with effectively. Political oppression and human rights violation in SADC countries have to be resolved so that people can stay in their own countries without seeking a better life by migrating.

Other authors like Landau(2011:4) mentions that "ever since the transition to democratic rule in the mid 1990's, illegal immigration from neighbouring countries has been viewed as a major challenge to South Africa's ambitious agenda of political transformation, economic development and poverty alleviation. Lacking clear direction from above, government officials and officers have developed immigration policies on a fly. These divisive tendencies have been mirrored by lack of significant regional initiatives by SADC. As evidenced by the lukewarm response by SADC to the on-going Zimbabwean crisis, the region has limited capacity for a coordinated response to migration and refugee flows"

The war against illegal immigration will not be won until economic opportunities and good governance are implemented in most SADC countries. Proposed policies have to be focused on creating solutions in conflict-ridden countries to bring about peace and stability. Stricter border controls should not be the only solution to this problem.

Brauer and Roux (2000:646) argue that as long as there are pronounced regional disparities in the sub-continent, there will be an inevitable influx of illegal immigrants for many years to come. Thus, it is in South Africa's interest to make a meaningful contribution to economic development and enhanced prosperity in all the Southern African countries.

Other SADC countries are able to reduce illegal migration due to their geographical setting Shaw(2007:3) mentions that undocumented immigration is currently a subject of great controversy in South Africa, where large differences in income between neighbouring countries creates substantial pressure for immigration. Due to its geographical isolation Mauritius, is the only one of the 10 countries that has been capable of effectively controlling irregular immigration.

SADC countries generally are wrestling with the reality of undocumented migrants in their individual states. Among other contributing factors to this problem is the political instability and weak economic conditions in the sending countries. This creates a

spill over effects in other countries. People move to countries with more stability and which have more developed economic systems to develop their lives.

In the scenario of a country like Zimbabwe, with gross violations of human rights, the population is constantly on the move to nearby countries for survival. Though countries in the SADC have policies to deal with the illegal immigration, to reduce this problem completely remains the unsolved hanging challenge. It is a problem that has to be dealt with at regional level; leaders in the region have to deal with the root causes of the problem. Countries with political problems such as human rights violations should solve the problems which force their population to escape to other countries seeking a better life. Berries (2002:212) explains that the Zimbabwe crisis has damaged the SADC region in that it has brought the region social and economic costs and increased illegal immigration.

Migration in SADC

Crush, Williams, Peberdy, (2005:9) mentions that the majority of countries in SADC see migration in the region as a threat than opportunity. Migrants are regarded as carriers of disease, takers of jobs and committers of crime. Policy has tended to focus, as a result, on control and prohibiting. Perhaps unfortunately, this general mentality extends to legal immigration

This view is credible especially in the case of affluent countries like Botswana and South Africa and Namibia. Majority of citizens are threatened by high unemployment in their countries, as a result they view migrants as a threat to their employment opportunities. Therefore heads of states in order to maintain stability in countries enact policies to limit opportunities firstly to the local people.

McConnell, (2009) quoting the work of McDonald, David; Zinyama, Lovemore; Gay, John; DeVletter, Fion and Mattes, Robert (2000) mentions that Lesotho, Mozambique and Zimbabwe are the largest source countries of documented migration into South Africa, as well as seemingly the largest sources of undocumented migrants.

Kok, (2006:9) mentions that Southern Africa will be an area of influx many parts of the world. In the process of trying to handle complex situation it must hasten to invent short –term and long term solutions to cross border migration, which will aid the bilateral and multilateral arrangement.

In order to avoid tension between member states of SADC, there is a need for members states to come with policies which effectively reduce and control cross border migrations as to makes sure that immigration laws are not violated and result in a huge inflow of illegal migrants into the country.

Sovereignty and illegal migration in SADC

(Niikondo, 2007:2) argues that SADC countries cannot achieve the goal of controlling the free movement of persons regionally. Among other factors to this hindrance is the fact that member states are more concerned about their sovereignties more than the interests of the region. In other words they talk regionalism, but they act nationally in their policy formation.

(Cornelissen, 2009:357) additionally argues that many countries in the SADC region view migration as a major political–economic issue. It is viewed as a threat to state sovereignty not only on Southern Africa but in other parts of the World.

This notion presents a very concrete and precise view about migration the SADC region. Economic disparities in the region influence countries to be more protectionists in their approach of the movement of persons. Stable countries fear that there will be a massive inflow of migrants from countries plagued by conflict, war, political oppression into their countries seeking a better life. Therefore there is need for more stability in SADC before protectionism can be permissive in neighbouring countries.

Illegal immigration and development in SADC countries

The reality of illegal immigrants has a burdening effect on the economic development of the host nations. They spend billions of rands to deport them and to maintain them before deportation. Kok(2006:62) cites that undocumented migration affects all Southern African countries, with varying magnitudes, impacts and consequences for their national economies. Crush, and Williams (2005) elaborates that what makes illegal immigration such a thorny issue to address is that it originates outside the receiving country's borders. Receiving countries are regarded as victims of sending countries' inability to employ good governance in their areas of jurisdiction, a factor essential for both political and economic stability of the country.

Campbell (2006:23) believes that "illegal immigration does contribute positively to the private economic sector in host countries especially through the willingness of illegal immigrants to accept lower wages than native workers. They also contribute positively to economic and social development in home countries through remittances. But the opportunity cost of hosting illegal immigrants is frequently perceived by some politicians and the natives to out-weigh the benefits to such countries".

There are two ways to asses this state of affairs. It is true that undocumented immigrants boost the economy due to their exploitation and meagre fees paid to their workers. The downside of the view is that this reality creates xenophobia and insecurity in host nations, and it has very costly economic and social effects in the host nation.

Illegal immigration in South Africa

Commenting on the South African setting Odén (1996:9) mentions that large numbers of illegal Mozambicans have been working illegally on South African farms since 1970s. During recent years the flow of illegal immigrants into South Africa has increased dramatically, coming not only from neighbouring countries, but also countries like Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi. The existence of an estimated 2-3 million

illegal immigrants is a major problem for the new South African government due to the risk of political and social instability.

Crush, Williams, and Peberdy (2005:12) further argue that undocumented migration tends to be driven by economic circumstances and, in some cases, desperation. In terms of sheer volume, South Africa is the regional leader, having deported over one million people since 1990. Significantly, the vast majority of deportees (upwards of 80%) are sent home to only two countries: Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Tensions between these countries have simmered below the surface on this issue for some time. Bilateral commissions have done little to stop the flow of migrants or produce viable solutions.

Additionally Hussein(2003) recommends that a lasting solution to the predicaments faced by immigrants in South Africa needs to be tackled in a holistic fashion and at a regional level because population movements into South Africa will continue as long as the sub-Saharan African region is characterised by endemic poverty, disease, drought, human rights abuse, political persecution and war. Thus he argues might degenerate into dilemmas which would lead to overt conflicts among nation-states in the region and opening up borders for the sake of solidarity might have devastating impacts on South Africa's economy

Furthermore Thoka(2011) articulates that for South Africa, the issue of illegal immigration is fast becoming a national problem. This type of problem creates political tensions between countries, as has been the case between South Africa and other countries in Southern Africa, namely, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mozambique and Swaziland. Such political tension is an unwanted burden and serves to further impede progress towards regional co-operation.

Tensions usually develop between countries when there is the problem of illegal immigration. This is because illegal immigration impedes developmental goals in countries to fulfil their obligations of social contract with their subjects. A lot of money is spent on deportation which could be invested in developmental projects.

Borrowing from a western situation scholars argue that tensions are created firstly by Diasporas and immigrant communities' influence on foreign policies. Examples include the controversial "Israel lobby" in the US, competing interests of Taiwanese and Mainland China Diasporas regarding the Taiwan Strait, the influence of Kurdish populations in Germany on policy in Turkey and Iraq, and ethnic Russian populations in former Soviet republics (Human Migration, 2009).

Secondly the damage to regional integration efforts when one country is seen as disproportionately bearing the burden of outside or illegal immigration, such as Greece, Spain, Portugal and other border states within the EU. And finally, migration affects international relations because it is often seen as a zero-sum game in which one country loses (from brain drain or the burden of caring for refugees and indigent migrants) and one gains (through the recruitment of talented/skilled workers or the safety-valve release of others) (ibid,2009).

Tension between countries can be caused because illegal immigration can hinder the implementation of developmental programmes of a host country. Countries have to spend millions of dollars deporting and dealing with illegal immigrants. This unnecessary expenditure on the citizens of another country can set back the plans and visions of the host country.

Maharaj and Rajkumar (1997:255) argue that in most instances illegal employees are exploited by their employers knowing they won't be reported to the authorities. Dixon (2011) suggests that a policy-induced reduction in labour supply from illegal immigrants generates a welfare loss for legal residents.

Matambanadzo(2013) further expands that most labour migrants in Southern Africa are working illegally in the region and do not enjoy the same basic rights as local workers and are often made to work in exploitative conditions. (Dumba, Chirisa, 2010). A case study of illegal Zimbabwean migrants who are based in Soshanguve in South Africa reveals the many facets of challenges including unemployment, non-payment for labour capitalising on the illegal status of the migrants challenges in finding accommodation and elements of mistrust and stigma of the migrants by South Africans.

High unemployment in South Africa makes citizens desperate. Some employers break immigration policies by hiring employees without registering them, they prefer illegals because of their readiness to accept low wages. As a consequence this incites tension between South Africans who want better wages and this sparks conflicts.

Lastly Sibanda (2008:5) argues that "the evaluation of the impact of migrants on the labour market of South Africa can only be limited to the documented immigrants while the impact of the illegal ones is not known". This view cannot be valid because it is true that illegal migrants are not registered there are scholars who have conducted research such as Solomon(2000) to evaluate to some extent the impact of illegal immigration in labour on South Africa though it could have limitations due to unregistered nature of illegal migrants.

Conclusion

The SADC region has a challenge in having its own regional migration policy. Though there is a draft protocol (of 2005) of free movement of persons it remains a struggle to implement its policies throughout the region. As a result the movement of persons is not effectively monitored and regulated due to these postponements. Currently illegal immigration poses a security, social and economic threat to the region. It's a dilemma which is delaying development processes in member states. Due to these observations a regional solution becomes a dire need to reduce the huge problem of illegal immigration as well as to resolve causal factors to this problem like political violence, corruption, poor economic situation and violation of human rights.

2.2 Theoretical frame-work of the study

This section deals with the theories most relevant to analyse the study. The pertinent theories of International relations for this study are Realism and liberalism.

Introduction

The study of International relations uses many theories used to understand the international system. These theories include: realism, liberalism, constructivism, to mention but a few. Theories are very significant for the interpretation of state behaviour and the understanding of international relations. Holsti(2004) describes international relations theories act as a pair of coloured sunglasses, allowing the wearer to see only the salient events relevant to the theory.

Other relevant scholars argue that critical theories of international relations, ranging from modernist to post-structural forms, share a commitment to challenging the naturalness of the existing world order and the acceptability of its dominant relations and practices of power. Critical theory focuses analysis on the effects of power on the differential ability of actors to control their own circumstances (Duvall& Varadarajan, 2008). Theory is necessary in thinking systematically about the world (Jackson and Sorensen, 2007:150).

2.2.1 Realism

Evaluating the nature of this study, the researcher is persuaded that the most relevant theory to analyse this topic is the realism theory. This is because the realism theory deals with security when analysing the interstate system. Realists argue that “the main responsibility of rulers is always to seek the advantages and defend the interest of their state and thus ensures its survival. That requires strength. If a state is not strong it will be a standing invitation for others to prey upon it. The ruler must be a lion. Even more importantly, if the rulers fail to notice a menace or threat it might harm or even destroy them, their regime and possibly the state as well” (Jackson and Sorensen, 2007:110).

Realists consider the principal actors in the international arena to be states, which are concerned with their own security, act in pursuit of their own national interests. Insofar as realists envision the world of states as anarchic, they likewise view security as a central issue. To attain security, states try to increase their power and engage in power-balancing for the purpose of deterring potential aggressors (Korab-Karpowicz, 2013).

Migration is commonly understood, in security terms, as a “problem” and many countries feel the need to protect themselves against this threat. In recent years, terrorism-related concerns have further fuelled this trend and put borders in the spotlight. In this context, irregular migration is perceived as a central phenomenon reflecting the porosity of borders and calling for greater surveillance. Controlling immigration has consequently become an important field of policy in which several evolutions have taken place in recent years (Antoine and Guchteneire, 2006).

Additionally Nkhoma (2011:37) quoting Chiundira, (2010) noted that “of nearly 6,000 crimes committed in the city of Mzuzu in 2007, only 800 were committed by illegal immigrants. The crimes were categorised as organised crimes, violent crimes, sexual crimes and petty crimes. Among other things, organised crimes included car hijacking, armed robbery, drug trafficking, fraud and forgery while violent crimes included cases of burglary, house breaking, fighting, and so on”.

Realism focuses on security. In the context of this study, South Africa is currently facing the immense flow of illegal immigration. Therefore it is the responsibility of South African government to protect its borders against unauthorised immigrants. It should defend its boundaries from outside threats. The points of entry should be highly controlled and regulated to guard against illegal entry into the country.

The theory of realism focuses only on security. It presents states as guarding their sovereignty and seeking to increase their power. While this theory is relevant to analyse this study, it is not able to analyse all the unique features of this study.

Another theory which can be relevant to this study is liberalism. It is a theory which focuses on the co-operation of states to solve problems. This study focuses on countries in SADC solving the problem of illegal immigration as a region. The element of co-operation is clearly characterised in this study. Therefore both of these theories are relevant to guide this study to assess aspects of security and cooperation in relation to the reduction of illegal immigration in the SADC region.

2.2.2 Liberalism

Another theory which is relevant to analyse this study is the theory of liberalism specifically neo-liberalism. The main idea in liberalism is co-operation. Neo liberalism is a suitable theory to assess this study. Some of the views of neo liberalism is that the best way to peace and prosperity is to have independent states pool together their resources and even surrender some of their sovereignty to create integrated communities to promote economic growth or respond to regional problems (Baylis, Smith, Owens, 2011:121).

Liberalists argue that humans can learn to cooperate to improve their lives and overcome prisoner's dilemma of just one interaction, cooperate in self-interest. While the world may be anarchical, there are contacts across borders, something like the germ of an international society (Tan, 2010).

Liberals generally take a positive view of human nature. They have great faith in human reason and they are convinced that rational principles can be applied to international affairs. Liberals recognise that individuals are self-interested and competitive up to a point. But they also believe that individuals share many interests and thus engage in collaborative and cooperative social action, domestically as well as internationally, which results in greater benefits for everybody at home and abroad (Jackson, Sorenson, 2007:98).

Liberalism therefore is relevant to analyse this study because SADC countries as a regional organization are working together to solve the problems which exist in the

region. Though its countries are sovereign states with national interests, member states are pooling their resources together to create peace, stability and prosperity. This regional organization has policies in the making which seek to regulate this challenge of illegal immigration in the region and countries team up to resolve it. Therefore liberalism becomes relevant since it emphasises the culture of coordination and cooperation in the process of solving problems in international relations.

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CHAPTER THREE

Data Presentation, Analysis and Findings

This chapter deals with the delineation of variables, which reflects the challenges the South African government faces to minimize illegal immigration, causes of illegal immigration into the country and the impact of illegal immigration on the socio-economic system of the state. However the following section is a brief introduction showing the experiences in other countries of SADC to show the reality of illegal immigration.

In the SADC region many countries experience illegal immigration. South Africa is not the only country which has this problem. Stable and wealthy countries in Southern Africa such as Namibia, Botswana and Angola are also combating this problem. To a large extent political instability drives this constant flow in the region. People migrate because they want to improve their lives.

Introduction

Botswana

In the SADC region countries which are mostly affected by illegal immigrants include Botswana, South Africa and Namibia. In Botswana the challenge is that Zimbabweans compose a large number of illegal immigrants (Campbell 2002:10).

Explanations why illegal immigrants move to Botswana include: the poor economic conditions in Zimbabwe. Wazha (2007) mentions that the interviews she conducted with documented and undocumented Zimbabweans reveal that the poor economic conditions in their country largely account for the influx of Zimbabweans into Botswana. This influx of immigrants concerns the government of Botswana on national security. Botswana's security concerns that determine its involvement in security co-operation include both actual and potential threats, such as cross-border crime, illegal immigrants, refugees, small arms, and HIV/AIDS, all of which threaten national security (Taylor, and Shelly Whitman 2007). Illegal immigrants from Zimbabwe also constitute one of the greatest security threats to Botswana. Refugees

are always a potential threat to the security of any country. Often the country from which they have fled has suspicions about their activities in the host state (Molomo, 2002:27).

According to Botswana's Department of Immigration, 26,717 Zimbabwean illegal immigrants were apprehended and repatriated from Botswana in the year 2002 alone. On average the government spends about 50 pula (US \$10) per illegal immigrant on repatriation. This includes transportation, feeding expenses and subsistence costs for repatriating officers," said chief immigration officer, Roy Sekgororoane (IRIN 17 July 2003).

Other sources (ZimbabweOnlinePress, 07/02/2010) state that the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Peter Siele, said at the launch of the new e-passport in Jackalas 2 recently that in 2009 alone, Botswana recorded over 330 000 illegal immigrants, most of whom were found in the northern parts of Botswana. It has emerged that other nationalities are also finding their way into the country. These include Egyptians, Somalis, Indians and Sudanese.

Namibia

The other country affected by illegal immigration is Namibia. On the Namibian issue NewsdzeZimbabwe(Friday, March 08, 2013) mentioned that Namibian authorities have launched a crackdown on illegal Zimbabweans. The government arrested many who were working as vendors. Cloete (22 January 2013) a journalist in Windhoek mentions that there has been a sharp increase in the number of illegal immigrants arrested in the Karas Region. Police Deputy Commissioner Rudolf Isaak reported that 30 illegal immigrants had been arrested at the Keetmanshoop police roadblock since the start of the past festive season. Among the foreign nationals arrested for entering Namibia illegally were Ethiopian (1), Canadian (1, Zimbabweans (10), South Africans (5), Somalis (4), Angolans (5), Nigerians (2) and Zambian (1).Most of them were arrested for overstaying while others could not produce valid travel documents.

Other sources mention that a Namibian Home Affairs Ministry official confirmed that more than 150 illegal immigrants (the majority of them from Angola) have been ordered out of Namibia by an Immigration Tribunal in the northern town of Oshakati, close to the Angolan border. The official told IRIN that five of the illegal immigrants were Zambians and another came from Zimbabwe (Southern African Migration Project, 2000). During the 2005/2006 financial year, the Namibian Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration deported a record 1394 illegal immigrants to their countries of origin. These people were mostly from Nigeria, Gambia, Angola, DRC, Burundi, Sudan, Zambia, Bangladesh and Tanzania (All Africanews, Mbala 5 June 2007).

Angola

Another country which is burdened with this problem is Angola. In 2011 it expelled more than 100,000 Congolese nationals across who had crossed their 2,500 km common border. And since late 2003, Angola has expelled some 400,000 illegal immigrants, most of whom were also Congolese. The majority of those expelled were undocumented labourers who worked in diamond mines close to the border (Stassyns 2012).

A journalist from Africa review (Vieira, 2013) mentions that "over 3,545 illegal migrants left Angola's Lunda-Norte Province in the month of May 2013. Lunda-Norte Province is a diamond-rich region and shares a vast border with both DR Congo and Congo Brazzaville. The majority of migrants are DRC nationals living in Angola. DRC nationals are usually involved in diamond exploitation in Cambulo, Cuango and Lucapa municipalities".

South Africa

Some of the illegal immigrants coming into South Africa are desperate and illiterate. They are willing to take any menial job to survive. "The majority of illegal immigrants in South Africa do not have more than three years of formal education and no work skills outside those of subsistence agriculture" (Solomon, 2005). Adding to this sentiment Campbell (2008:16) argues that "Illegal immigrants are mostly poorly

educated and therefore compete for jobs with the lower classes of the host country's population". They are usually found on farms and in factories doing low paying jobs. This usually makes poor South Africans angry because these workers are willing to work for any wage no matter how low.

Educated migrants tend to be favoured over unskilled migrants because of their expertise in the host countries in SADC. Countries value their abilities which will contribute to the development of their economies. But unskilled migrants are often denied entries into countries. "Migration has become highly politicised in many countries, and politicians often claim to keep out low-skilled migrants so that they appear to be defending national sovereignty, while turning a blind eye to dangerous and exploitative forms of irregular migration that meet employer demands"(Castles, 2010:43).

This strategy is one of the approaches used by affluent nations. They create a brain drain in developing nations by offering skilled migrants better economic opportunities in these countries. Gabriel (2013:60) mentions that "High-skilled labor migration figures prominently in global policy narratives. Increasingly, countries in the global north have introduced policies to attract and facilitate the entry of skilled migrants."

Other scholars mention that "in terms of actual migration flows, work permit data and registration data for 2001 and 2002 show there has been significant growth in the inflow of doctors to the United Kingdom. In 2002, nearly half of all the new full registrants on the UK General Medical Council (GMC) register were foreign, and of those, 3509 were South African trained doctors. In the same year 1950 South African doctors were reportedly living in the USA" (Buchan2007:147).

This movement of educated people from the global south to the global north benefits the nations already developed with skills and leaves the developing nations in desperate need of skilled human resource to improve the economies of African countries. This perpetuates a gap in terms of development of the rich north and the poor south.

This evidence clearly shows that Africa is losing the brightest minds in science to rich nations. Wildshut and Mqolozana (2009:page 89) further substantiate that "by 2004, 7% of the total nursing workforce in SA had left SA to work in seven Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries (Denmark, Canada, Finland, Portugal, USA, UK and Ireland), whilst slightly over a third of the South African doctors (37%,or totalled 12 136) who had been trained in SA were living in eight OECD member countries (Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Portugal, USA and UK).

In the context of SADC, due to instability in many member states, the most educated Africans choose to leave their countries of origin. Brain drain has debilitating effect on African countries, development becomes uneven because the wealthy countries are most likely to attract the most literate minds into their economies.

Challenges of immigrants in South Africa

The common mentality among South Africans is that immigrants are coming to take their jobs. Since many black South Africans are rising from a long era of political and economic oppression from the apartheid regime. They have cherished an attitude that they are entitled to economic opportunities that are available in the country. South Africa faces a challenge to eradicate this way of thinking from its citizens because it makes South Africa an inhospitable nation.

Elaborating on this tragedy Nyamnjoh, (2006: 190) mentions that in post-apartheid South Africa, nationals compete with migrants for the lowest level jobs. Many migrants, both skilled and unskilled are exploited and treated as slave labour, sleep walkers or labour zombies by employers eager to take advantage of their precarious state, to drive down wages and circumvent labour laws.

The presence of illegal immigrants places challenges for the Republic of South Africa. Hussein (2000:17) argues that Illegal immigrants burden South Africa's health services in two ways. Firstly, they arrive in South Africa and seek medical assistance from local hospitals and clinics. Secondly, they spread certain diseases to South

African citizens and thus further tax South Africa's overburdened health infrastructure as South Africans also have to seek treatment for these illnesses.

Definitions of an illegal immigrant

A significant question pertinent to this study is 'What is an illegal immigrant?' (Adler and Gielen, 2003:339) mention that an undocumented or illegal alien is anybody who enters or remains in South Africa in contravention of the Alien control act 1991 and therefore resides in South Africa without official endorsement. This includes any person who enters South Africa at a place other than a port of entry 2) remains in the country without a valid residence permit 3) acts in contravention of his or her residence permit and remains in South Africa after the expiration of a residence permit. Illegal aliens in South Africa belong to two main categories; undocumented forced migrants or refugees, and undocumented voluntary migrants.

Campbell (2002:4) holds another definition saying that an illegal immigrant could be defined as a person who enters a country of which he/she is not a citizen without demonstrating at the port of entry that he/she possesses legal documents that justify such entry Zyl, Kok, Gelderblom, Oucho, (2006:62) commenting on illegal immigration articulate that undocumented migration variously named in different settings has been difficult to track in Southern Africa. It is comprised of immigrants who lack documents authorising their stay and residence in the receiving country, those who have overstayed their authorised duration of residence and those who failed to get formal granting of refugee status or asylum seekers; they try to avoid enforcers of the law to perpetuate their stay in a country.

The SADC documents do not have a definition of what an illegal immigrant and legal immigrant is. However they articulate standards and guidelines to clarify this distinction. Article 15 of the 1995 and Article 14 of the 2005 draft protocol on the free movement of persons in SADC subsection c and e mentions that "any person entering the borders of member states should have a valid travel document and should enter through an official border post" An illegal immigrant would then be classified as someone who infringes on these policies when entering the host country.

3.1. Challenges of South Africa to lessen illegal immigration into the country

Currently South Africa is facing many difficulties to control the immense flow of illegal immigrants from entering the country. Some of these problems include: poor border control, employers illegally hiring illegal immigrants, the crime of human trafficking and those who overstay after their visa has expired. This reality poses many security threats to South Africans and violates the country's sovereignty. Many of the illegal immigrants entering the country are not inspected at ports of entries; as a result the state does not have information about their characters, whether should be allowed to enter the country or not.

This problem needs tangible solutions or else it will threaten the security of South Africa and delay its development programmes. It is a problem not confined to South Africa but occurs countries in Europe and countries like USA, Australia, Russia, as well as some countries in Asia and other countries in Africa are coping with this problem. Malashenko (2012), a professor of history at the National Research University of Higher School of Economics, regarding illegal immigration in Russia argues that it is not possible to stop illegal immigration and, secondly, it is useless to try to stop migration as a phenomenon. Illegal immigration is only part of a larger problem. So we will not resolve the problem of illegal immigration until we resolve the issue of migration in general.

The leadership of South Africa are concerned about this problem. As a result they are busy inventing plausible ways to resolve this menacing situation. Radebe (2013) a Home Affairs and security editor at Business Live reports that Home Affairs Minister Naledi Pandor mentions that there are incidents where illegal immigrants get arrested and detained at the Lindela centre for more than 120 days due to delays in the verification process by country representatives. To deal with this problem she intends to talk to ambassadors in a bid to resolve this problem. The issue is that people end up staying at the Lindela repatriation facility in Krugersdorp for months. There have been incidents where illegal immigrants stayed for more than the legally permitted 120 days at the repatriation holding facilities. The department spends between R70m and R90m a year on the repatriation of illegal immigrants.

3.1.1 Poor Border Control

The first challenge of South Africa to prevent and fight illegal immigration properly is the borders that are poorly controlled. Some of them do not have enough staff to assist with the administration duties. Unless it's quickly resolved it is likely to open the country to a massive uncontrolled flow of illegal immigrants as well as illegal trade into South Africa.

Scholars like Martin (2011) mentions that “the porous state of South Africa's borders is harmful to farmers as they are subject to stock theft, crime and diseases. Farmers' organisation AgriSA says “the recent outbreak of foot and mouth disease in KwaZulu Natal is a direct result of damaged border fences that allowed infected cattle through to South Africa”.

Poorly managed borders will expose South Africa to many threats. These dangers could range from criminals entering the country to add to the already existing crime. Safety and security of the citizens will be threatened. Other risks which could enter the country will be weapons to assist crimes against local communities.

Other sources shedding light on the intensity of this situation mention that more than 60% of all counterfeit cigarettes in the country come from Zimbabwe due to poor border controls. This has been revealed by the Tobacco Institute of Southern Africa (SABC, 2012). Furthermore Pillay (2009: 26) recognizes that “no migration policy or strategy aimed at alleviating xenophobic tensions can be contemplated if the national borders are porous and people can come and go as they please.

de Jager and Hopstock (2011) emphasizes that the main solution to this problem is to improve the quality of border control .The government's approach to legal and undocumented migration in South Africa through enforcement, control and exclusion, as well as reliance on deportation, instead of proper border controls and

management, has resulted in an increasing influx of undocumented immigrants and a subsequent trade in forged documents.

Elaborating on this difficulty, Hennop (2000) mentions that one of the problem areas for the smuggling of illegal firearms into South Africa has been the international border between South Africa, Swaziland and Mozambique. This 220 kilometre borderline starts at the Mpumalanga /KwaZulu-Natal provincial border with Swaziland and ends at Kosi Bay on the Indian Ocean. Prior to 1994, this border area was used extensively by the different liberation movements to supply arms to internal freedom fighters. Today this border area is a favoured illegal crossing area for illegal immigrants, stolen vehicles and illegal firearms.

Infrastructural challenges are an addition to the weak maintenance and effectiveness of South African borders. Maunye (2012) mentions that at some of the borders there are extremely poor facilities in which DHA staff are expected to work at border posts, including former holding cells being used for administrative duties.

Further elaborating on the borders the International organization of migration, (2010:15) mentions that many borders have inadequate facilities and staff to handle the high numbers of vehicles and people trying to pass through them, leading to long delays. In addition, some borders are not open 24 hours a day, which exacerbates the delays and causes people to sleep overnight in such places.

Other difficulties with the borders of South Africa include the insufficient availability of human resources. There are insufficient officers to assist with administrative duties. In most instances police officers are called in to assist at the borders. These deficiencies weaken the ability to control the massive flow of migrants as they enter the country. As a result many can just enter unnoticed through these ports of entry.

Capazorio (2013) mentions that the Home Affairs department reported to IOL news that they have several challenges in their border posts. Some border posts have no immigration officials and are only staffed by police. As a result many of those entering the country just walk through posts of entry. There are insufficient inspectors

to trace those who have overstayed their visas. Currently South Africa has only 600 inspectors. Lastly the Home Affairs mentioned that it lacked funds to continue running state of the art security system which identifies suspects or high risk passengers before they come to South Africa.

Some of the borders of South Africa are in a defenseless situation. Infrastructural problems and the inability of the borders staff to prevent illegal entry are allowing and the infiltration of crime which will be a threat to the security of the state. This situation calls for immediate action to improve the standards of security and infrastructural facilities. Government has to intensify its projects to fortify its ports of entry.

3.1.2 Corruption of home affairs officials

Illegal immigration is aided by some of Home Affairs officers. Officials, who are supposed to be doing their best to prevent this unacceptable situation, at times perpetuate the problem. They take bribes and give undocumented immigrants IDs (identity documents) for payment. This defeats the objective of government to prevent illegal entry into the country and to regulate it in the country. Those entrusted with authority to be enforcers of the policies and laws, are often advocates of corruption.

Other ways of securing jobs and opportunities in South Africa illegally are mentioned by scholars like Reitzes (1997) indicates that "some illegal immigrants buy South African identities, legally or illegally, and are therefore not counted as illegal. Some are 'adopted' by local families: a South African citizen swears an oath to authenticate the status of the immigrant to a magistrate, who then issues legal South African documents. Others obtain forged documents by bribing corrupt officials in the Department of Home Affairs and some officials have been prosecuted. Many illegals avoid arrest by bribing police officers, only to be re-arrested and forced to pay another bribe".

The Hawks reported that sixteen officials were arrested for fraud and corruption at the Caledonspoort border post where they allegedly made more than R100 000 a day charging people without passports up to R200 to enter SA (News24, 2013-05-07). Other scholars argue that like Department of Home affairs is one of the most corrupt departments in SA. "The process of restricting the movements and opportunities of refugees and undocumented migrants has created a fertile area for petty corruption by officials choosing to abuse and exploit those struggling to navigate their way through a complex system. With an enduring legacy as one of most corrupt departments under the apartheid regime, the post-apartheid DHA has been characterised by administrative incompetence and on-going irregularities"(Gordon, 2010:13).

The porous nature of South African borders are a major contributor to the problem of illegal immigration. A sufficient supply of trained officials is needed at these borders to assist with the administration responsibilities. Until this problem is sufficiently and effectively resolved the objective of reducing illegal migration into the state cannot be a reality. It should be one of the prioritised projects.

3.1.3 Employment of illegal immigrants

An additional difficulty which impedes South Africa from minimising illegal immigration is the employers who break the law by hiring illegal immigrants who are not registered with government agencies. Masemola (2010) mentions that in South Africa, it is unlawful to employ illegal immigrants or to employ without registering people with authorities. In agriculture, as in other sectors, reports on employment of illegal foreign nationals without registration are made.

In terms of section 38 of the Immigration Act (as amended), no person shall employ
a) an illegal foreigner (a foreigner who is in South Africa in contravention of the Immigration Act, i.e. not in possession of a valid permit or acting in contravention of his/her permit) b) a foreigner whose status does not authorise him or her to be

employed by such person c) a foreigner on terms, conditions or in a capacity different from what is provided for in his or her permit.

This practice of employing people without registering them is common in the farming industry in South Africa. Undocumented immigrants are often exploited and overworked. In most situations they are not well remunerated, because the employer threatens the workers that he can report them to the local authorities. However in South Africa an employer who deliberately violates labour laws by illegal employment of unregistered workers can be found guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine or to imprisonment.

Farmers hire illegal immigrants because they need cheap labour. They are preferred because they are ready to work for reduced incomes. Mwakikagile (2008:217) mentions that undocumented labourers including children on farms; work for, pittance, on average about 5 rands (US\$1) per day. Because of the illegal stature of these workers, farmers can exercise tremendous power over them.

SamaYende (2001) further elaborates that children as young as six are being forced to work on farms in the South African province of Mpumalanga as part of a deliberate strategy by farmers to use the cheapest and most docile workers available. A police raid on 15 farms uncovered the widespread use of illegal Mozambican child labour. The children, employed on sprawling citrus and sugar farms in Mpumalanga's fertile Onderberg region, were paid as little as R2, 08 per day in return for 12-hours hard physical labour, from sunrise to sunset. Most of the children and up to 80 percent of the women working on the farms are illegal Mozambicans who can't complain about their working conditions without being deported to impoverished villages in central and southern Mozambique

Some of the areas in South Africa where this malpractice occurs are Limpopo in the North of South Africa particularly in Messina. Zeitung (2011) articulates that farmers in the Messina area report that up to 100 people approach them for work each day, and are prepared to work for next to nothing. The farmers supply them with South African work permits, and somehow even procure Zimbabwean exit documentation for illegal immigrants.

Adding to this issue Ephraem (2013:3) articulates that farms are also used as places of refuge for illegal migrants. Because they get a lot of benefit from them in cheap labour farmers hide and protect them from authorities. Frustrated and in order to evade easy detection by immigration authorities and police, many of the undocumented immigrants end up with large number of them on remote farms. Employers prefer such kind of labour who they underpay and have security of a long stay on the farms. Even if they work under harsh conditions, they don't complain and are willing to be paid anything even below the minimum wage scale.

The willingness of foreign workers to accept poor wages often creates conflicts with poor South African farm workers because they want to improve their wages. As a consequence it sparks the reaction of xenophobic attacks against migrants because they desire higher wages whereas illegal immigrants are willing to accept any remuneration from exploitative farmers.

Most of the undocumented immigrants are not literate; they are desperate for any menial job. Solomon, (2005) mentions that “ the majority of illegal immigrants in South Africa do not have more than three years of formal education and no work skills outside those of subsistence agriculture.”

This is another form of corruption in the farm industry. South African government cannot minimise illegal immigration if the citizens of this nation do not work in partnership with the government agencies by avoiding the unlawful act of employing workers illegally. Farmers complain only when they experience stock theft and crime but they assist illegal immigrants when it is to their advantage. It is a paradox which adds to the burden to the government to deal with the plague of illegal immigration.

3.1.4. The crime of human trafficking and over stayers after the visa expiry

Another challenge to reduce illegal immigration is the crime of human trafficking. Many of the victims of this crime are brought to South Africa against their will. Often they are lured with offers of jobs and opportunities to improve their lives in South Africa. Simon (2013) mentions that the penalties for the crime of human trafficking are harsh, with a maximum penalty of R100 million fine or life imprisonment for a

conviction for the trafficking of persons. The bill also calls for compensation payable by those found guilty of the crime, to their victims.

Other scholars like Adepoju (2002:29) states that another possible cause of illegal entry into the country is human trafficking. It contributes significantly to illegal immigration. Often the victims of this crime are transformed into illegal immigrants against their will. After they enter the country their identity documents and passports are confiscated from them. The traffickers threaten to turn the women over to the police as undocumented workers or threaten to kill them and their families (Fitzgibbon, 2003:85).

The majority of the victims are women, because they are usually used as sex slaves. People who are coming from poor economic backgrounds who are likely to be charmed by economic opportunities are lured by the traffickers to migrate to the great cities of South Africa. Kreston (2007:37) elaborates that often the victims are poor and vulnerable people. They are charmed with promises of a better life with advantages. In 2003 both UNICEF and the IOM published studies on trafficking. The IOM study focused on trafficking in women and children for sexual exploitation in Southern Africa, and found that South Africa is a main destination for southern Africa. The victims, both children and adults, are recruited by coercion, force, or deception (most often enticed by employment, marriage or education)

Additionally the (International Organization for migration (2012) reports that in Southern Africa, IOM has been at the forefront of counter-trafficking work since 2002 when the Organization conducted a regional research assessment of human trafficking in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Swaziland with the resulting publication, *Seduction, Sale, and Slavery: Trafficking in Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation in Southern Africa*. The research found that in most cases, women and children were being lured to South Africa with promises of jobs, education, or marriage only to be sold and sexually exploited in the country's major urban centres.

Other sources cite that Zimbabwe is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children trafficked for the purposes of forced labour and sexual

exploitation. Large scale migration of Zimbabweans to surrounding countries as they flee a progressively more desperate situation at home has increased, and NGOs, international organizations, and governments in neighbouring countries are reporting an upsurge in these Zimbabweans facing conditions of exploitation, including human trafficking. Young men and boys are trafficked to South Africa for farm work, often labouring for months in South Africa without pay before "employers" have them arrested and deported as illegal immigrants (Wikipedia, 2013).

South Africa also experiences internal human trafficking. Victims from poor villages are recruited to come to big cities to get jobs. Bermudez (2008) mentions that internal trafficking is the most commonly reported form of human trafficking in South Africa. Human trafficking research reports produced in this country have revealed evidence of children being trafficked from poor socio-economic areas such as rural areas and farms in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal to developed parts of the country, such as urban areas in the Western Cape and Gauteng.

The second group are those who enter the country legally, but overstay after their visas have expired. These are often students, tourists and those who want to find opportunities in the country. Letsiri (2013) quoting Logart points, out that some people enter the country legally but stay on after the expiry of their visas. A substantial number of such persons enter the country with appropriate documents, which includes students, previously employed persons whose work and residence permits have expired, tourists, refugees and visiting family members.

The crime of human trafficking is one of the crimes which South Africa has to fight against, in order to reduce the high statistics of undocumented migrants in the country. Current policies which are intended to criminalise human trafficking should be accompanied by intense efforts to train agencies who will focus specifically on this crime.

3.2 Causes of illegal immigration into South Africa

The other significant aspect to consider, in order get a holistic understanding of the problem is to assess and investigate the causes of illegal immigration into South

Africa. There are about 5 million illegal immigrants in total in South Africa. The number is said to be made up of migrants from Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to mention but a few origins of the migration (Ngandwe, 2013:428). In 2010, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimated that 25.5 to 32.1 million people (or 10%–15%) of the world's total 214 million international migrants are undocumented immigrants (Wikipedia, 2013).

Some of the key causes of illegal entry into South Africa are outlined by Martin (2011); quoting Professor Mike Hough from the University of Pretoria he outlines some of the reasons for illegal migration which include: poor border control; corruption, fraud and fake documentation; economic conditions in the home countries; opportunities for crime; and fraudulent asylum claims. He noted that people overstaying their visas are another issue.

Other causes of illegal immigration into South Africa include:

- Long international borders and the fact that South Africa has borders with a number of African countries.
- The perception that more employment opportunities exist in South Africa than in other countries.
- Insufficient manpower to control the borders more effectively.
- The cost of border protection.
- The fact that farmers and employers in other sectors have seemingly come to view illegal immigrants from neighbouring countries as a source of cheaper , more reliable and non-unionised labour.
- Other causes include corruption and fraud in the Department of Home Affairs and other departments such as Customs and Exise, and the increases in forgery of identity documents, as South African passports are reported to be amongst the easiest of all passports to forge (Hough, 1995:14).

3.2.1 The end of Apartheid and 1994 elections

The apartheid regime was very restricting to the entry of African migrants. It allowed entrants only as temporary labourers who were to return back to their countries after the authorised period. Current government is more open and accepting of African migrants into the country. Klotz (2000:831) pronounces that, rooted in the Immigration Regulation Act of 1913, which drew on 19th century policies and practices, apartheid-era laws tightly controlled population flows. Throughout the twentieth century, the government actively sought white settlers but Africans were strictly limited to no more than temporary legal entry under the migrant labour system.

This policy was built on the racist undertones of the policy of apartheid. Its intention was to keep the black race as labourers and to maintain white supremacy. African women were not permitted into the labour market. Ojong (2002:2) confirms that African migration to South Africa is not a recent phenomenon, dates back about one hundred and fifty years when African men migrated from some southern African countries to work in the South African mines. During this period however, the apartheid regime restricted African entry into the labour market of South Africa to contract mine workers, who were obviously men. Due to the abolition of apartheid. African migration to South Africa now has a more balanced gender profile.

After the termination of the apartheid system Africans felt free to come into South Africa and find work. Observing the root causes of illegal entry into South Africa Tessier (1995) argues that following the national 1994 election which brought Nelson Mandela's coalition government to power, illegal immigrants have flocked to South Africa in the hope that the Mandela government will be more sympathetic to their interests than were previous administrations.

3.2.2 Political instability and poor economic situations in countries of origin

Other rational causes and explanations why illegal immigrants come to South Africa has to do with their countries of origin which lack political stability and respect for human rights. Undocumented immigrants generally move from neighbouring countries for historical, political or social reasons (Sibanda, 2008). Most illegal immigrants have come to South Africa to escape poverty and destitution in their own countries, as well as civil wars and political instability. They enter the country very easily through the poorly controlled borders. The harbours and airports are easy entry points. There are also serious staff shortages at border posts and immigration offices throughout the country (Minnaar, 1995).

Haldenwang (1996: 74) further argues that the movement of illegals, especially from African countries such as Mozambique, Angola, Malawi, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and DRC to South Africa is caused by drought, civil war, famine, and adverse economic conditions in the country of origin.

3.2.3 Quest for a better life

One more motivation is the desire and a hope for a better life in South Africa. Illegal migrants intend to build their lives, because their countries have failed in most cases to empower them and develop their lives. Oneale (2013) adding to these points mentions also that Zimbabwean illegal immigrants come to South Africa for one reason only; to attain a better quality of life in the hope of employment, whether legal or illegal.

The government of Zimbabwe with gross human rights violations and the poor economic condition are strong push factors which compel migrants to seek better living conditions in other countries. Maharaj (2009) mentions that the main reason for illegal immigrants in Durban leaving their home country was unemployment. Economic motivation is another important point that motivates migrants to come to South Africa.

One of the causes of illegal migration is the inability to access travel documents like passports. Due to the poor economic status of many illegal migrants, they cannot pay for legal travel documents like passports and visas. These financial limitations compel them to exit their countries illegally and to enter the host countries without visas and passports. Ngomane (2010) mentions that a majority of Zimbabwean illegal immigrants choose to migrate illegally because they do not have passports to enable them to apply for visas, those who have passports cannot afford to pay the R2000 needed for a visa, and due to the porous nature of South African borders, it is easier to migrate illegally than legally.

The economic and political decline in Zimbabwe has led to large-scale migration, legal and illegal, to South Africa. The inability of Zimbabwe to process proper travel documentation for its citizens in an appropriate time span coupled with high costs, restrictions on visas and the lack of sufficient control capabilities on both sides of the border has fed the growth of an increasing 'illegal immigrants crossing to South Africa (Mawadza, 2008:13).

Comparing the US and South Africa Selaelo (2010) mentions that, South Africa which is still a developing country itself is perceived by many Africans as the best of the African countries in terms of economic resources. One can draw similarities between South Africa's illegal immigration issue with the United States of America's illegal immigration issue in relation to Mexico. The major difference between the two countries is that one is a developed country and can somehow contain its problem while the other is a developing country and therefore does not have enough resources to share with illegal immigrants. For South Africa, the problem is more complex than the United States' in that people from all over Africa cross the borders illegally in search of a good life.

3.3 The socio-economic impact of illegal migrants in South Africa in terms of crime and services

3.3.1 Crime

The movement of illegal immigrants from their countries of origin to host countries creates a lot of security challenges for the host nations. The major reason is that illegal immigrants are not screened when they enter another country. Some of them could be criminals. Hussein (2003:3) mentions that the movement of people within and between states has been one of the key manifestations of a variety of hardships and challenges that are faced by many individuals and states in Africa. The fact that, among other things, specific countries and regions in the continent of Africa have experienced one conflict after another, has contributed to instability within the continent. Such instability is reflected by the huge numbers of people moving across borders into other countries as a way of seeking sanctuary, peace and an attempt to re-build their lives. Such movement of people across borders has also been a cause of serious security challenges for both the countries from which these people originate as well as those in which they seek sanctuary.

Some of the undocumented immigrants are criminals. The fact that they come to South Africa without valid travel documents (passports) and enter through illegal channels, that they are lawbreakers not only in their countries of origin but also in the host nation. They leave their countries illegally and enter the destination country illegally as well. Other factors which motivate illegal immigrants to commit crime are the fact they come to South Africa poor and in need of resources to survive. These desperate circumstances push them to commit crime.

Due to their illegal status in South Africa illegal migrants are often abused and ill-treated. In spite of these harsh circumstances they do not report abuse to the local authorities because they fear being detected and deported. Crush & Williams (2003) mentions that apart from the initial risks that force people to leave their home countries, many illegal migrants are subjected to abuse, theft and violence by legal authorities in South Africa.

Elaborating on the interviews they conducted with illegal immigrants in their study Chigeza and Roos (2011) mention that the vulnerability of the illegal migrants is evident in their hesitance to report instances where they were victims of crimes. One of the participants narrated his traumatic experience: "One day I was walking alone during the night. The robbers attacked me. They took my cell phone and a watch. I could not go to the police because I know I do not have protection, since I do not have papers".

Other scholars hold views that illegal migrants are not a cause of crime. Crush (1996:3) embraces this idea when he argues that there is today an, and increasingly bellicose, mythology targeted at non-South Africans living in the country. This mythology is fuelled by the public utterances of police, some researchers and certain officials in government. Illegal migrants take jobs, commit crimes, depress wages, consume RDP resources, spread Aids, and smuggle arms and drugs.

This notion is not valid because it denies the reality that exists in many host nations. The majority of countries that have illegal immigrants, experience crime and incur higher budget costs to deport them and to prevent their illegal entry into the country. Shurman-kaufman (2006) argues that in the 12 month study she conducted in USA, she concluded that crimes committed by illegal immigrants in 36 states in which the majority of illegal migrants live included crimes like murder, sex crimes and drug offences.

Petersen (2011) commenting on the Australian situation with illegal immigrants mentions that illegals in these country are mainly Americans, Britons, Chinese, Malaysians and South Koreans. They have been involved in crimes such as sexual slavery, fraud and drug cartels.

3.2 Crimes committed

Crime in South Africa is a major problem. Due to the increase in undocumented immigrants the government has to invest more funds to prevent crime. Scholars who researched this matter from the dawn of democracy of South Africa argue that the problem of illegal immigration is not only economic, but also social. The rising rates in crime and violence, prostitution, small arms and drug trafficking, car theft and armed robbery are increasingly linked to the rising number of illegal immigrants. Police have estimated that fourteen per cent of crime in South Africa involves illegal immigrants (Greve, 1995:1).

Additionally Hussein (1996) mentions that, in 1994, 12 403 illegal immigrants were arrested in South Africa for committing serious criminal offences, including rape and murder. The negative security implications of hosting a large illegal foreign population are well documented, not only in South Africa, but in Asia, Europe, the Americas and in the rest of Africa.

Breetzke (2010:7) further adds that a strong association between illegal immigration and crime has been widely acknowledged by the South African government. The first main policy document to govern policing in the country, the National Crime Prevention Strategy warning of 1996 that the unregulated flow of people over borders can increase the potential for inter-group conflict and cross-border crime. In 1999, the White Paper on International Migration 44 indicated the negative impact that illegal immigrants were having on the provision of services and on South African society as a whole. The paper noted the considerable involvement of illegal immigrants in criminal activities, as well as their involvement in the corruption of state officials

Current data substantiates that the fact that illegal immigrants commit crime which threatens the security of South Africa. Momberg (2006) citing Hough study echoes that the foreign criminals are responsible for the large proportion of the crimes committed in South Africa. Thousands of illegal immigrants are convicted every year of crimes such as robbery, murder, rape and drug trafficking. He said that most of

the foreign criminals were Zimbabweans who were generally involved in bank robberies, fraud and drug offences.

Other crimes that have been committed by illegal migrants include farm attacks. Scheen (2011:17) mentions that Messina in the north of South Africa resembles the front line in this undeclared exodus from Zimbabwe. Serious attacks have been committed by Zimbabweans in the area, including cases of murder in the course of a robbery. Messina's white farmers now seek out poor Zimbabweans; they patrol the streets at night and call for detention camps. Bezuidenhout (2012:14) elaborates that some farmers are attacked by legal/illegal immigrants in South Africa from neighbouring countries such as Zimbabwe where land grabbing and violence toward White farmers has also taken place. Many White farmers have also been tortured and killed in Zimbabwe. As a result many White farmers have left Zimbabwe.

The other threatening security issue is that many illegal immigrants who enter South Africa come with weapons they will use for crime. Hennop (2011:3) holds that while doing his field research work focusing on the illegal movement of firearms across South Africa's international borders. He found there was a close relationship between the issue of firearms with that of illegal immigration or even vehicle crimes and drug-trafficking. Solomon quoting Gamba, mentions that sixty per cent of all illegal immigrants entering South Africa from the Swaziland and Mozambican borders are entering the country armed.

Hussein (2003) quoting the institute of security studies (1997) mentions that between 1 January and 31 December 1996, the South African defence force confiscated 150 AK47 rifles, 181 rifles, 626 hand weapons, 489 home-made weapons and 184 other weapons from illegal immigrants. Over the same period ; the following narcotics were confiscated from illegal immigrants: 22 121 kilograms of dagga, 5 ,422 mandrax tablets , 110.2 kilograms of cocaine and 674 grey tablets; the following precious metals were confiscated from illegal immigrants: 69 kilograms of gold and 0.8 kilograms of other precious metals. Livestock recovered from illegal immigrants included 1013 head of cattle, 2884 small stock, and 132 other stock. Over the same period 36,262 illegal immigrants were arrested.

Discontent with the illegal immigrants by South Africans manifests itself through xenophobic attacks which often occur in farming areas when illegal immigrants accept poor wages from exploitative farmers. Through these abuse lives of many illegal migrants are lost and as a result the level of crime and instability in the country increases. As a result South Africa is perceived as a very unsafe country characterised by violence and crime against foreign nationals.

This data shows that illegal immigration poses security problems in South Africa. It increases the level of crime in the country and costs the government money that should be used for the development of South Africa and hastening the service delivery programme to the poor people in the country.

3.3.3 Services

Each country has restricted resources to provide public services for its citizens. They have a budget limited to the needs of its own its own nation, they don't have an infinite capacity to assist all the nations from the rest of the world. The presence of illegal migrants stretches the capacity of a host nation to provide effectively for the needs of its people. Furthermore to deport undocumented migrants back to their countries costs millions which could be utilized for development purposes. The South African government devotes at least R90-million a year to sending illegal immigrants back to their countries, most to Zimbabwe (Mataboge, Mail and Guardian, 17May 2013).

3.3.4 Housing and health sector

The two most affected sectors in South Africa are the housing and health sectors. Undocumented migrants need access to these services when they reach the country. As a consequence the budget capacity of the country is strained to the limit. South Africa cannot afford to support all individuals from other countries with these services and be able to uplift its own people from the lowest point of poverty at the same time.

Ngomane (2010) argues that illegal immigrants have a serious impact on housing in terms of illegal squatting and on the health sector. Hussein (2000) quoting Schutte argues that a large concentration of illegal immigrants in the country places an inordinate burden on the state, decreasing its capacity to lift impoverished South Africans out of their misery. In other words, the presence of illegal aliens has an adverse effect on the capacity of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) to improve the lot of ordinary South Africans. This is made clear by the strain illegal immigrants place on the health services of this country. For example, clinics in KaNgwane and Gazankulu which have been established to serve the needs of South African citizens are overstretched due to the demands placed on them by thousands of illegal Mozambicans residing in the area. Since foreigners are mostly destitute or come from strife-ravaged areas, they usually need much more attention than local people. This care comes at the expense of South Africa's own citizens.

Massey and Taylor (2004:71) further argue that Illegals are often accused of being involved in criminal activities, infiltrating cities, townships and squatter camps and taking away native housing , adding to the decay of inner cities, working for lower wages and tolerating substandard working conditions and also exploiting local girls by marrying them to get a residence permit.

The challenge is that illegal immigrants don't pay taxes to the government to be able to access these services. Tax payers in the country will end up paying higher taxes because the country has to raise more revenue to be able to provide services to illegal migrants. Although the statistics show a decline in the population growth, the government still cannot cope with the demand for services. According to various estimates, the number of undocumented immigrants in South Africa may vary between 3-6 million (2008-2009 Annual report). These are the people who did not form part of the 2001 census, but they are the recipients of the public service for example should they need medical attention they will receive the type of care that would be afforded any citizen (Zubane, 2011).

The debilitating effect of illegal migrants on the economy of South Africa creates attitudes of discontentment. Xenophobic attacks and demonstrations for higher wages will increase in the country. As a result, instability will proliferate which will then have a direct effect on the development of the country. In their study to assess the attitudes of South Africans concerning illegal immigrants accessing health services, Crush and Tawodzera (2011:4) mention that South Africans feel that the right to access health services should depend on citizenship and legal status in the country. Over 95% said that citizens should always enjoy the right to social services (including health) and ART (anti-retroviral therapy for HIV and AIDS). However, only 50% felt that legal migrants should enjoy the same right. The figures for refugees and undocumented migrants were even lower (27% and 13% respectively). Two-thirds felt that legal migrants should always have the right to access ART but, again, fewer thought that refugees and undocumented migrants should be eligible (50% and 38% respectively). Fully 43% said that undocumented migrants should always be denied ART.

These negative attitudes will result in an advance in crime. Violence against migrants will increase. South Africa will deteriorate into a country that is dangerous to live in. Social security will be affected to a large extent. This situation will act as an impediment to the prosperity of the country and sabotage its vision for social and economic development.

3.3.5 Diseases threat

Many illegal immigrants are not screened when they cross the borders of South Africa. There is a high possibility that some of them could be carrying diseases which can threaten the welfare of South Africans. Other countries like South Korea demand a health check-up for the foreigners who desire to enter their borders before issuing a visa for entry, which is a way to protect the welfare of their nation. Undocumented migrants then pose a high threat to the health of the citizens of the host nations since they go into the country illegally.

Some illegal immigrants bring with them diseases with the potential to become epidemic that can be attributed to poverty. The vast majority of these illegal

immigrants arrive in poor health and are severely malnourished. Their malnourished bodies have little resistance to illness and disease. Thus aliens are excessively susceptible to diseases such as yellow fever, cholera, tuberculosis and AIDS. For instance, cases of malaria in the Northern Transvaal especially chloroquine resistant strains have been associated with the movement of migrants from Mozambique (Schutte) as quoted by (Solomon, 2000).

3.3.6 Labour sector

The majority of illegal migrants find work in the informal sector. They are prepared to work for low wages and can cope with harsh working conditions. Trade unions in South Africa are working earnestly to improve the income of the poor people of this country. Many trade union members want higher wages from employers. Undocumented labourers are willing to receive meagre wages from the employer. As a result a clash is created between poor South Africans and illegal immigrants. This is another cause of social instability in South Africa.

The findings of the Masungulo Project mentions that illegal immigrants are competing with low-skilled South Africans in the job market. Conclusions of this nature are found in the study conducted by the National Labour and Economic Development Institute (NALEDI), a think-tank for the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). The study documented the presence of illegal aliens in the various sectors of the economy. In addition, it revealed that many workers feel that the presence of illegal foreign workers has a depressing effect on wages as a result of their acceptance of working for long hours for low wages and their resistance to unionisation. This, union officials argue, contributes to local people having decreased access to employment and giving rise to resentment towards illegal immigrants that is then expressed in xenophobia. According to the study, illegal immigrants are generally active in the following sectors of the economy: agriculture; hospitality (hotels and restaurants); construction; domestic work and informal trading (Solomon, 2000).

COSATU also argues that illegal immigration is undermining the tenancy of long term farmworkers and therefore the potential for land redistribution and are enabling

farmers who are barely making a living to survive and thus preventing confiscation of bankrupt farms which can be redistributed. It is also an impediment to the establishment of a farm workers union. By accepting low wages and not supporting unions for fear of losing jobs or being reported, they have allowed white farmers to resist the formation of a farm workers union (Reitzes, 1997).

immigration poses a threat to the socio-economic system of South Africa. It increases crime and increases social instability in the country. It is a threat to the country's security. This situation which is likely to sabotage the development and service delivery programs intended to improve the quality of life of ordinary citizens of this country.

3.7 Findings

A face to face interview was conducted with a home affairs official in Mafikeng. In the process of the interview a questionnaire of open-ended questions was used as a tool to acquire relevant data. Some of the views that were presented by Home Affairs are that:

- Some of the causes of illegal immigration into South Africa are caused by corrupt officials who give undocumented migrants ID documents after getting a bribe.
- Other related causes include South Africans who are bribed to pronounce illegal immigrants as their relatives so that they are given South African citizenship.
- Areas along borders between countries next to South Africa are often unmonitored and unguarded which often makes it easy for undocumented migrants to jump fences and enter South Africa.
- Another challenge on the borders of South Africa is the shortage of immigration staff to control migration, especially during Easter and Christmas seasons.
- South Africans often fail to register their children after birth. Most of them are from rural areas and illiterate. After years of living in South Africa unregistered these citizens are regarded as undocumented migrants even though they were born South Africans.
- Furthermore, to deport illegal immigrants back to their countries affects the economy of South Africa. It costs millions of dollars which could be utilized for development projects in the country.
- Other views articulated are that political instability in some of the SADC countries is the chief cause of illegal immigration into South Africa. Push factors like wars and political violence push migrants to South Africa.

Other findings of the study reveal that there is a constant flow of illegal immigrants in South Africa and this country faces a lot of challenges to minimize the constant entry across its borders. Some of the current problems include poor border control. Many of the points of entry lack enough staff members to assist with administration

work. The situation is so serious that in some instances the police service is recruited to assist. Other related challenges include the fact that in South African borders today there is corruption of officials, who accept bribes to permit immigrants to enter the country illegally. While they are in the country they can access public services illegally because they can acquire ID documents fraudulently from corrupt home affairs officials.

South African borders have insufficient inspectors to trace those who have overstayed their visas, this makes it difficult for the state to prosecute those who have violated immigration policy.

Currently in South Africa there is a constant hiring of illegal immigrants mostly in farm areas. Farmers value cheap labour which is why they prefer undocumented immigrants. Child labour is another persistent problem in South Africa; children are overworked on many farms with meager wages and cruel treatment. The perpetual crime of human trafficking also increases the high level illegal immigrants in the country, because some of these victims are often brought to South Africa against their will and when they arrive here their passports are taken away from them. In most instances they are compelled to work for their captors against their will or they are threatened with death or to be reported as illegal immigrants to the relevant authorities.

The study also found that illegal immigrants come to South Africa in pursuit of better living conditions, free from war, human rights violations, political violence and oppression. Illegal entry is caused by poverty; many immigrants cannot afford to obtain a passport in their country of origin. The porous nature of South African borders makes it easy for immigrants to enter the country, because they are so poorly maintained.

Crime in South Africa is one the problems threatening the security of the country. Illegal immigrants add to this challenge by committing crime as a way to survive and earn a living. These crimes are at times committed across the borders, which include from drug trafficking and vehicle theft. Other crimes which have been have committed by illegal immigrants include: rape, farm killings, and bank robberies. This

data shows that illegal immigrants are a threat to the security of South Africa, because they are screened when they cross the borders to investigate if they are bringing any risk to the country.

The service delivery program of the South African government is currently striving to uplift the poor people in this country; it cannot be able to assist the additional illegal immigrants who enter the country illegally. The huge number of illegal immigrants in the country burdens the Reconstruction and Development Program, because they have access to housing and medical care which is aimed at the welfare of South Africans. As a consequence the government must increase its budget and revenue to assist all South Africans as well as illegal immigrants from the entire continent. Furthermore the SA government spends about R90 million each year to maintain and deport illegal immigrants back to their countries; this money could be used to assist and uplift poor South Africans from the bondage of poverty.

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CHAPTER FOUR

Conclusions and Recommendations

This chapter is divided into two sections namely, conclusion and recommendations. The conclusion is obtained from the analysis of the causes of illegal immigration into South Africa, the current challenges of the state to minimize the immense flow of undocumented immigrants who to enter the borders of the country as well as the impact of illegal immigration in socio-economic system of South Africa.

4.1. Conclusion

The conclusions which can be drawn from this study are that, the South African government certainly has challenges to effectively minimize the inflow of undocumented migrants across its borders. Within the borders of the country the state is grappling with the existence of illegal immigrants who are residing in the country after their visa has expired.

The precise difficulties which South Africa is currently facing to reduce illegal immigrants from entering the country include: The borders which are understaffed which have to depend at times in the manpower of the police service. Secondly, the maladministration of corrupt Home Affairs officers at borders who accept bribes and permit the illegal entry of immigrants into the country. These officers also grant illegal immigrants fraudulent IDs after obtaining huge amounts of money from them. As a consequence undocumented immigrants are able to access public services such as government grants and pension funds from the state. This situation as a result stretches the budget limits of the government are stretched to higher level than expected.

Other challenges which South Africa faces to minimize the presence of illegal migrants is that employers in the country hire undocumented immigrants without registering them with the government which is a crime in itself. Section 38 of the Immigration Act (as amended) states that no person shall employ a) a foreigner who is in South Africa in contravention of the Immigration Act i.e. not in possession of a

permit or acting in contravention of his/permit b) A foreigner whose status does not authorize him or her to be employed by such person.

In spite of these clear policies many South Africans mainly in farming areas such as Limpopo break this law, by hiring illegal immigrants because of their desire to obtain cheap labour from them. This action can spark xenophobic attacks on foreigners because local farm workers want higher wages and foreign workers farm are willing to work for poor wages, under any conditions, no matter how harsh.

Observing the immense flow of illegal immigrants into the country, this study concludes that there are practical reasons why this is happening. Africa is a continent that is full of conflicts, human rights violations, Political violence etc; these factors act in most instances as push factors which motivate Africans to migrate to other countries free from these atrocities.

Other causal factors which motivate illegal migrants to come to South Africa are that they are escaping poverty and destitution in their own countries, as well as civil wars and political instability. They desire a better higher quality of life. Some other explanations include opportunities for crime, and fraudulent claims for asylum just to be able to live in the country. In the context of South Africa, many illegal immigrants come to this country because they cannot afford to pay for a valid passport in their country of origin and to pay for a visa to enable them to stay long in the country.

As illegal immigrants enter the country illegally they can be a threat to the security of the state because the government does not have any information about them and their reasons for coming into the country. Some of them are callous criminals who come armed with weapons as they enter the borders. They can harm innocent lives. Credible data in the legal records of this country many undocumented immigrants have committed crimes like rape, murder, drug trafficking, killing of farmers, car theft and bank robberies. This information leads to conclusion that there is a urgent need for SADC leaders to ameliorate this situation in order to create more security in all other member states.

Critical issues

Analyzing these issues it is clear that the most critical issues which need immediate attention is the condition of the borders of South Africa. They are poorly managed and resourced. They are composed of administration staff that lacks integrity, they lack credible infrastructure, and as a result this makes national borders porous and incapable of preventing unauthorized entry into the country. As a result the security of the state is at stake. Additionally the state needs to find ways to maximize the competence of border personnel to be able to effectively maximize the execution of their duties.

The second issue is the reality of employment of illegal immigrants in farms. Majority of these workers are abused, ill-treated and underpaid by unprincipled farmers. There is a serious need to invent and implement strategies to thwart the unscrupulous culture of hiring illegal migrants without valid registrations with the relevant authorities of the state.

The other critical matter is the need to prevent the dreadful crime of human trafficking in South Africa. Even though there is legislation in place to punish traffickers, there is a need to find strategies to educate the public to make them resistant and aware of the tactics of the traffickers and their human rights. This is a crime that increases the high inflows of illegal immigrants in the country.

Lastly the SADC region is still struggling with issues of political violence, human rights violations, lack of peace and stability in some countries, poverty etc. These are potent push factors which lead people to move from their countries of origin to neighboring countries with more peace, stability and wealth. Some of these migrants move illegally without valid documents. Until these imminent issues are effectively dealt with, it will difficult to reduce illegal migration in the SADC region.

4.2 Recommendations

The recommendations which will be presented in this section will focus on possible strategies to address the following key issues: The porous nature of the borders of South Africa, ways to improve the competency and skills of personnel in the national borders, the employment of illegal immigrants in farms, ways to deal with the human trafficking crime. Furthermore it will assess what is being done currently to reduce the problem of illegal immigration in the SADC region.

The government of South Africa should be earnest about developing the quality of the border services in order to minimize the immense flow of illegal migrants. One way is to train effective border officers in institutions of higher learning, to empower skilled agents with administration abilities which can be utilized on the borders of South Africa. Another way to resolve border problems is to train a special force with specialized knowledge in border crimes and equip them with skills which can help them to know how to prevent these offenses. The government should increase the quantity and quality of border officials to guarantee that the borders will be well capacitated in terms of human resources.

The current approach to increase the security in the national borders of South Africa has been to deploy South African defence force in the borders. However it would be better to develop a specialized force which spend 24 hours in the national borders of South Africa and allow South African defence force to focus in national security.

A needs-based research should be conducted in all borders of South Africa. This research would evaluate the problems, needs and difficulties that prevent effective execution of border duties. As a result, data collected from the investigations could guide the government to know specifically the areas it needs to focus on to improve and empower officials at its ports of entry the facilities needed and equipment, as well as the skills needed in the immigration personnel at the borders.

Other methods which can be implemented to solve the issue of corruption in border officials mainly Home Affairs officials is to make harsh prison sentences for such malpractice to instill a sense of responsibility into the conduct and work ethics of border officials. This study found that many SA borders do not have enough

inspectors to regulate migrants who overstay their visas. Currently South Africa has only 600 inspectors. This deficiency calls for an imminent development of inspectors to enlarge the workforce in this area. Bursaries can be issued in universities to give interested students skills to work in the field of immigration competently.

The present reality of human trafficking is another predicament which adds to the burden of hosting large numbers of illegal immigrants, as many of the victims are brought to the country through trickery and force, their documents are taken from them and they are compelled to work as slaves. One way to minimize this problem is to develop an excellent education program which could be formal and informal in the country. This program should be available in primary and high school as well as universities. Agents should be hired to take it even to rural areas. The contents of this program should enlighten citizens about the various tactics of human traffickers and ways to avoid becoming their victim. This approach will not completely prevent this crime but it can make a difference to assist many ignorant people who are deceived by traffickers. Communities should be rewarded for reporting this crime to the relevant authorities when they witness it.

The current employment of illegal employees is a challenge which can be alleviated by having specially trained specialists who can form a branch of Home Affairs, to focus on investigations and registrations of workers mainly in target areas where illegal immigrants are hired. This is significant because the government cannot deal with this issue from a distance, they need agents who can work at a close range to be able to collect data and report crimes which are perpetuated by employers who deliberately violate the law.

The best way to reduce the immense flow of illegal immigrants not only in South Africa but in SADC as a whole is for countries that are still grappling with political instability to resolve their issues to lead to a more stable region.

Strategies of SADC countries to minimize illegal immigration

The present reality of illegal immigrants in the SADC region is one of the foremost difficulties which member states are currently contending with. The problems related to irregular migration are increasingly being addressed by the countries. Measures include improvement of border controls, efforts to review and update legal instruments and introduction of mandatory visa requirements. Participants made suggestions and recommendations on how to meet the new challenges caused by irregular migration. Increased bilateral and regional cooperation and coordination is seen as crucial. A concrete suggestion was made to bring together the Ministers of Justice of the SADC region, to develop suitable legal instruments to address the issue. The need for additional research on the causes and consequences of irregular migration was raised, and IOM and SAMP were requested to assist the countries in this regard. Calls were made for increased information sharing in the region and a specific request was made for the establishment of a regional database. The last point, closer collaboration with civil society, NGOs and media, was suggested as an important tool to meet the challenges faced (International Organization of migration, 2003).

To solve the problem of illegal migration one needs to address the causes. These are environmental degradation and political and economic instability, which lead to people leaving their homes in search of a better life (Tromso, 2002).

Practical solutions should be made at a regional level, because the political violence in Zimbabwe has a spillover effect on the entire region as illegal immigrants from that country constantly move to the neighboring countries seeking a better life for themselves. Until the leaders of SADC design resolutions to stabilize the political and economic problems in that country the current problem of illegal immigrants in South Africa not will be effectively resolved. Political stability and economic development is one of the major initiatives in Africa which can reduce the number illegal immigrants, and refugees in the African continent.

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